

*The Blinde Man.*



Here is *Lazarillo's* birth and life,  
His wily feats and honest wife,  
With his seven masters shall you find,  
Expressing Spanyards in their kind

*The Blinde Man.*



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Brackley.

THE  
PLEASANT  
HISTORY OF  
LAZARILLO de TORMES

a Spaniard, wherein is contained  
his marvellous deeds and life.

With the strange adventures  
happened to him, in the service  
of sundry Masters.

Drawne out of Spanish by *David*  
*Romland of Anglesey.*

The Third Edition, corrected and amended.

*Accuerdo, Olvido.*



LONDON,

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to be sold at his shop in Chancery  
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THE  
PLEASANT  
HISTORY OF

LEONARDO DE FORMOSA

A Spanish knight, who was  
the most valiant of his  
age.

IN THE REIGN OF  
QUEEN ISABELLA

ALSO KNOWN AS  
THE HISTORY OF

THE REIGN OF  
THE KING OF CASTILE

AND THE REIGN OF  
THE KING OF ARAUCAN

AND THE REIGN OF  
THE KING OF PORTUGAL

AND THE REIGN OF  
THE KING OF SPAIN

AND THE REIGN OF  
THE KING OF FRANCE

AND THE REIGN OF  
THE KING OF ENGLAND



TO THE  
HONOURABLE  
Sir *Charles Stanhope*,  
Knight of the Bath, Heyre  
Apparant to the right Honourable,  
*John Lord Stanhope*, one of his  
Majesties most honourable  
Privie Counsell.

SIR,



*Azarillo de Tor-*  
*mes*, ( accor-  
ding to his  
Masters pro-  
fession ) hath beene a  
A 3 great

## *The Epistle*

great while, though to  
small purpose, a begger  
in Spain; A disease, w<sup>ch</sup>  
in respect of the heate  
of the Climate, & the  
coldnes of charity, is  
there holden incurable;  
in hope to better  
his fortunes here among  
vs (where such cures are  
more ordinary :) He is,  
after some vnneccessary  
stayes in France, and much  
labor, in learning to  
speak our English, ar-

*Dedicatorie.*

rived vpon these coasts:  
where falling into my  
hands, & being affrayd  
of everie Vnder-Offi-  
cer, hee hath embolde-  
ned himselfe (vpon the  
frequent profession of  
mine humble and hear-  
tie desires, to doe your  
Honor service) to make  
me his unworthy Me-  
diator, that vnder your  
honourable protection  
and allowance, hee may  
*still* beg for approbation,

A 4 amongst

*The Epistle, &c.*

amongst your noble  
friends, *Cum privilegio.*  
Which earnest suit of  
his owne conception,  
is and shall be (as far as  
may stand with my  
duty) enforced and se-  
conded by

*Your honours most  
humble servant*

*Tho. Walkley.*



To the right worshipfull, Sir  
*Thomas Gressam*, Knight.



Hen. I had read o-  
ver this little Trea-  
cise (Right Worship-  
full) finding it, for  
the number of strange and mer-  
ry reports, very recreative and  
pleasant: I thought it no labour  
evill bestowed, to occupy my  
selfe in the translation thereof.  
And being moved thereto the  
rather, perceiving that in France  
many delighted therein, being  
turned into their tongue, I fully  
deter-

*The Epistle Dedicatorie.*

determined to bring my former pretence to end: Considering, that besides much mirth, here is also a true description of the nature and disposition of sundry Spaniards. So that by reading herof, such as have not travelled Spaine, may as well discern much of the manners & customes of that Country, as those that have there long time continued. And being now finished, I was so bold as to dedicate the fruite of my simple labour unto your Worship, who both for travell, daily conference with divers Nations, and knowledge in all forraine matters, is known to be such an one  
as



*The Epistle Dedicatorie.*

as is well able to iudge, whether these reports of little *Lazaro*, be true or not. Wherefore I most humbly beseech your Worship, favourably to accept this poore present, (as offered of one) who wisheth unto you and yours, all health, wealth, long life, with increase of all vertue and worship: Trusting, that after your waighly and important affaires to ease your tedious exercises, you wil recreate your selfe with reading of some pleasant part hereof.

Your worships most humbly to  
command, David Rowland.

The English Language  
 and well-known today, whether  
 their reports of him. I have  
 never met. With me I will  
 hardly, I think you will  
 have a right to say it is poor  
 present. (I think of one) who  
 with me you and your  
 friends, I think, I think, I think  
 incorrect. I think and  
 this, I think, I think  
 wrong. I think and  
 to say, I think and  
 you will see you will  
 reading, I think, I think  
 I think, I think, I think



The Prologue of *Lazaro de Tor-*  
*mes*, unto a Gentle-man of Spaine,  
which was desirous to under-  
stand the discourse of his life.



*I* Am of opinion, that  
things so worthy of  
memory, peradven-  
ture never heard of  
before, ne seen, ought  
by all reason to come  
abroad to the sight of many, and not be  
buried in the endlesse pit of oblivion,  
there perpetually to be forgotten : for  
it is possible that those, which shall read  
this Treatise of my life, may finde some  
pleasure therein. Wherefore true it is  
that Plinie recordeth, There is no  
hock so evill, but hath some good-  
nesse in it contained : (considering  
all men taste not a like) that which one  
man will not eat, another longeth sore  
for: we see many despise things, which  
others

## The Ptologue.

others doe greatly esteeme: Therefore nothing ought to bee broken & cast away, unlesse it were detestable; but that first diuers men should see the same, & especially being not hurtfull, but rather able, instead of damage, to yeeld profit and utility. If the world were otherwise, very few would take pen in hand to pleasure one man onely, seeing that they cannot bring their workes to end, without great travell: And when they have ended their labour, they rightfully desire to be recompensed, and not with money, but only, that all men with courteous minde, will read and allow their workes, yea, and (if there be cause why) give them praise. For to this end Tully saith, Honour doth maintaine Art, or cunning. Doe you thinke that the Souldier, that first mounteth on the wall with his ladder, is weary of his life? No surely, the desire of honour encourageth him, so to venture into such danger. So likewise, in Art and lear-

## The Prologue.

learning, we ense to say Master Doctor  
hath preached well, he is a man that see-  
keth the health of Soules. But I pray  
you demand of him, whether he will bee  
offended, that one shall say, O how di-  
vinely you haue preached Master Doc-  
tor! The like happeneth in men of armes  
as men commonly report. O how such  
a knight justled naughtily, and not-  
withstanding, he hath given his Coat-  
Armor to a Iester, which commended  
him for running well, what would hee  
have given, if hee had said the truth?  
Wherefore now, that all things passe  
after such a sort, I confessing my selfe to  
bee no holier then my neighbours, am  
content that such as finde any taste in  
this my grosse stile and novelty, may  
pleasure and delight themselves there-  
with: and they may perceiue, how a  
man liueth, after so many fortunes,  
dangers, and aduersities.

Therefore now, I beseech your Wor-  
ship, receiue with willing heart, this  
poore

## The Prologue.

poore token of my true affection, which  
should have beene much richer, if power  
and ability had been equall with desire.  
And seeing that you have commanded  
me to write the matter at length, I have  
thought good, not to begin in the midst  
of my life, but first to tell you of my birth  
that all men may have full knowledge  
of my person; that those that possesse  
great rents and reuenues, may under-  
stand what small praise is due unto  
them, seeing that Fortune hath dealt  
partially with them; and how much  
commendation they deserve, which in  
despite of cruel Fortune, with force and  
industry, by rowing out of tempestuous  
seas, have arived to fortunate and hap-  
py havens.

Lazaro



Lazaro declareth his  
Life, and whole sonne  
hee was.



OVR Worship shall  
understand before all  
things, that my name  
is *Lazaro de Tormes*,  
sonne of *Thome Gonsa-*  
*ler*, and *Antonio Petes*, Native of  
*Tesfiores*, a Village neare *Salamanka*:  
I was borne within the River called  
*Tormes*, whereof I tooke my Sur-  
name: as hereafter you shall heare:  
my Father whom God pardon, had  
the charge of a Mill standing upon  
that River, wherein he supplied the  
roome of a Milner about xv. yeares.

B

It

*The Spaniards Life.*

It fortun'd on a night, my mother being great with Childe was there brought to bed, and then was I borne: therefore now I may truly report the River it selfe, to be the place of my Nativity: and after the time I came to the age of eight yeares, there was laid to my fathers charge, that hee had shamefully cut the seames of mens Sackes that came thither to grinde; wherefore he was taken and imprisoned, and being tormented, he confessed the whole matter, denying nothing wherefore he was persecuted. I trust in God that hee is now in Paradise, seeing that the Gospell doth say, that Blessed are such as confesse their faults. About the same time an army was made against the Turkes, and my father being then banished for the mishap aforesaid, chanced to be one, supplying the roome of a Muliter, under a Knight which went thither,

in



*The Spaniards Life.*

in whose service like a true and faithfull man, he ended his life. My mother being then a comfortlesse widow, after the losse of her deare husband, determined to inhabite among such as were vertuous and honest, to be of that number, and therefore came immediately to this noble Citie, where after that she had hired a little house, shee kept an ordinary table for divers Students; and washed shirts for a company of Horse-keepers, belonging to the Commander of *Magdalena*, by meanes whereof, she had accusation to make often resort unto the stables, where in continuance of time, a blacke Morion, one of Master Commanders men, became to bee familiarly acquainted with her: So that for his part, hee would oftentimes arrive at midnight at our house, and returne againe betimes in the morning, otherwhiles at

B 2      noone

*The Spaniards Life.*

noonetide, demanding at the doore whether my mother had eggs to sell, and so come in pretily without suspicion: At the beginning I was right sorry to see him make repaire thither, being afraide to behold his blacke uncomely visage: but after that I once perceived how onely by his resort our fare was so well amended, I could by no meanes finde in my heart to hate him, but rather beare him good will, rejoycing to see him: for he alwayes brought us home with him good round Cantles of Bread, and pieces of broken Meate, and in the Winter time, Wood to warme us withall. To be short, by his continuall repaire thither, matters went so forward, that my Mother found in good time to bring forth a young Morren, whom I daily plaid withall, and sometimes helped to warme. And I remember very well, that on a time, as my  
Step-

*The Spaniards Life.*

Step-father plaid merrily with his young sonne, the little childe perceiving that my Mother and I were white, and his Father blacke as Iest, he ran away for feare to my Mother, and stretching forth his finger, cryed *Mamma* the Bugge : whereat my blacke step-father would laugh, and say, a Whoreson, art thou afraid of thy Father? Although I was then but young, I right well marked the Childes words, and said to my selfe, there are many such in the world, which doe abhorre and flee from others, because they cannot see what shape they have themselves. Within a while after, it pleased fortune, that the daily conversation of *Aide* ( for so was my Fathers name ) came to the eares of him that was Steward to Master Commander, who made such streight inquiry, that hee was advertised how the blacke Morren did use to steale halfe

*The Spaniards Life.*

All was  
fish that  
came to  
the net,

the Provender that was allowed the  
Horses, yea, horse-coverings, sheets  
and Curry-combes, other-whiles  
wood, and bran: which things in  
deed he alwayes said were lost, and  
when nothing could bee gotten to  
serve his turne, he would never stick  
to unshoe the horses, to get some  
gaine, presenting daily all such gifts  
to my mother, as a help to bring up  
my little blacke brother. Let us  
never therefore marvell more at  
those which steale from the poore,  
nor yet at them which convey from  
the houses they serve, to present  
therewith whom they love, in hope  
to attaine thereby their desired plea-  
sure, seeing that love was able to  
encourage this poore bondman or  
slave to doe thus much as I have  
said, or rather more, which by evi-  
dent tryall was afterwards proved  
true: for I being examined of the  
deed, after much threatning was  
con-

*The Spaniards Life.*

constrained as a childe, for feare, to discover the whole matter, confessing how I had sold certaine horse-shooes to a Smith at my mothers commandement: wherefore my miserable Step-father was by judgement of the Law, as the order is there, whipped and Larded, and to my mother expresse commandement was given upon the usuall paine of an hundreth stripes, no more to enter into the house of the above named Commander, nor yet entertaine into hers, the unfortunate *Zaide*. My sorrowfull mother fearing to throwe the helve after the hatchet, determined by all meanes to keepe their commandement, wherefore she entred into service with those which at that time, dwelt at the ordinary Inne called *Solona*, so to escape danger and to avoyd the dangerous reports of evill tongues, where shee suffered much

There is an order in that countrey when any Moore doth commit any heynous offence, to strip him naked, and being bound with his hands and his knees together, to bast him with hot drops of burning Larde.

*The Spaniards Life.*

There is  
no provi-  
sion there  
in Inn<sup>e</sup>;  
for the  
guests  
must send  
abroad in-  
to the  
towne, for  
all such  
vittall as  
they need.

forrow, and there brought up my  
blackebrother, untill he was able to  
run abroad, and that I being a good  
stripling, could goe up and downe  
the towne to provide the guests of  
Wine, and Candles, and other things  
necessary. In this meane time, there  
happened a blinde man to come  
thither to lodge, who thinking mee  
to be a fit man to leade him, desired  
my Mother that I might serve him,  
wherewith she being right well con-  
tent, most earnestly prayed him to  
be a good Master unto me, because  
I was an honest mans sonne, who in  
maintaining the faith of Iesus Christ  
against Turkes, dyed in the battoll  
of *Gelves*, and how that shee trusted  
in Almighty God, I would proove as  
honest a man as he: therefore in any  
wise that hee would be carefull over  
me, being a fatherlesse Childe. Let  
me alone then (answered hee) I will  
not use him as a seryant, but as a  
sonne.

*The Spaniard's Life.*

sonne. Then in happy time I began  
to serve my Old and New Master :  
And after we had remained certaine  
dayes at *Salamanka*, my blinde Ma-  
ster perceiving his gaine there to bee  
but small, determined to depart  
thence : and a little before our de-  
parture, I went to see my Mother :  
when I came where shee was, wee  
shed both most bitter teares, and shee  
gave me her blessing, saying, Now  
my deare sonne, I shall see thee no  
more, therefore be a good Childe, I  
pray God be thy helpe; I doe thanke  
the Lord, I have brought thee up  
well hitherto, and I have now put  
thee to a good Master, from hence-  
forth provide for thy selfe, seeing  
that I have done my part. I tooke  
my leave and returned in hast to my  
Master, which tarried for me, ready  
to take his Voyage. So we departed  
out of *Salamanka*, and came on our  
way as farre as the Bridge, at the en-  
trance

*The Spaniards Life.*

trance whereof standeth a beast of Stone, fashioned much like a Bull: as soone as wee came neere it, the blinde man willed me to approach: saying, *Lazaro*, put thine eare to this Bull, and thou shalt heare a terrible noyse within it: as soone as hee had said the word, I was ready like a foole to bow downe my head, to doe as he had commanded, thinking that his words had beene most true: but the traiterous blinde man suspecting how neere it my head was, thrusteth forth his arme upon a souldaine, with such force, that my fore head tooke such a blow against the diuellish Bull, that for the space of three dayes my head felt the paines of his hornes, wherefore hee was right glad and said: Consider now what thou art thou foolish Calfe, thou must understand, that the blinde mans Boy, ought to know one trick more then the devill himselfe.



*The Spaniards Life.*

selfe. It seemed then immediately that I waked out of simplicity, wherein I had of long time slept (like a childe,) and I said to my selfe, my blinde master hath good reason, it is full time for me to open mine eyes, yea, and to provide and seeke mine owne advantage, considering that I am alone without any helpe. Wee continued on our journey, and within few dayes I came to good knowledge; so hee perceiving what a ready tongue I had, was right glad, and said, neither gold nor silver can I give thee, howbeit, I doe meane to teach thee the way to live, and so certainly he did: for next after God he made me a man, and although hee was blinde, it was hee that gave mee light, and that taught mee how to know the world. I rejoyce to declare unto your worship these Childish toyes, that you may see how commendable it is for a  
man

*The Spaniards Life.*

man of lowe estate to be brought to authority and exalted, and contrariwise what a shame it is, a man from dignitie and estimation to be pulled downe to wretched misery. But to returne to my blinde Master, and to shew his nature, I assure you, that sith the beginning of the World, God never made Man more deceitfull and crafty: for in his Art and Trade of Living, he farre passed all other: hee could recite by heart a hundred long Prayers and mœe, yea, and the life of all holy Saints: at his devotion time hee used such a loud tunable voyce, that it might be heard throughout the Church where hee prayed; and besides all that, hee could counterfet a good devout countenance in praying, without any strange gesture, either with mouth or eye, as other blinde are accustomed to use. I am not able to recite a thousand other manner of wayes which

*The Spaniards Life.*

which hee had to get Money: hee would make many beleieve that hee had prayers for divers good purposes, as for to make women bring forth children, yea, and to make men to love their Wives, although they had hated them before never so much. He would prognosticate to Women that were with Child, whether they should bring forth a Sonne or a Daughter: in matters of Physicke hee would affirme that *Galen* never knew halfe so much as hee: also for any griefe, the tooth-ache, or any other disease, there was never one complained, but that immediately he would say, doe this, doe that, seeke such an Herbe, take such a Roote: So that by this his continuall practise, he had daily great resort made unto him, (especially of Women) which did faithfully beleieve all that ever hee said: by them hee had great gaine, for he won  
more

*The Spaniards Life.*

more in a month, then twenty of his occupation did in a whole yeare. Yet for all his daily gaines, you must understand that there was never a man so wretched a niggard. For he caused me not onely to die for hunger, but also to want whatsoever I needed. And therefore to confesse the troth, if I had not found out meanes to helpe himsele, I had beene buried long sithence. Wherefore oftentimes I would so prevent him of all his craft, that my portion should proove as good as his: and to bring my matter so to passe, I used wonderfull deceits (whereof I will recite unto you some) although sometimes my practising of them did cost me bitter paines.

This blinde man carried alwayes his bread and his victuall in a little bag of cloth, which was shut at the mouth with an iron buckle, under a miserable lock and key: at the time

of

*The Spaniards Life.*

of putting his meate in, and taking it  
out, he would keepe such straight ac-  
count, that all the world was not  
able to deceive him of one crum, and  
therefore there was no helpe, but  
that I must needs bee content with  
that small allowance that hee gave  
me, which alwayes I was sure to dis-  
patch at two morsels: and as soone  
as ever he had shut his little locke, he  
would thinke then, that all were sure,  
imagining that I had other matters  
in hand: then would I boldly unrip,  
and sow up againe the side of his  
covetous sacke, using daily to lance  
one of the sides, there to take out  
not onely bread at mine owne plea-  
sure, but also slices of flesh, and  
sweet Carbonado's: So that by such  
meanes, I found convenient time to  
ease the raging hunger, which hee  
was cause of. *More* And even, all the money that e-  
ver I could convey and steale from  
him,

*The Spaniards Life.*

him, I changed alwayes into halfe  
blanks, and when any man demaun-  
ded any prayer, hee had alwayes of  
ordinary a blanke given him for his  
hire, and because he could not see, it  
should be delivered to me: But hee  
could never so soone put foorth his  
hand to receive it, but I was as ready  
to throw it into my mouth, and by  
quicke exchange, to give the just  
value of halfe of it, whereat hee  
would much murmur, knowing by  
the onely feeling of it what it was,  
and would say; How in the Devils  
name chanceth it, that fithence thy  
comming to me, I received but halfe  
blankes, and before I had alwayes a  
whole blanke, and sometimes two.  
I thinke surely, that thy unluckinesse  
be cause thereof. From that time  
forward, hee thought good to shor-  
ten his prayers, cutting them off in  
the middest: wherefore hee com-  
manded mee, that as soone as the  
Almes.

*The Spaniards Life.*

Almeſſgiuer had turned his backe;  
I ſhould plucke him by the cloke. Blinde  
men ſtand  
there in  
Church  
porches,  
ready to  
be hired  
for mony  
to recite  
any prayer.  
Then ſtraightwaies changing tune,  
hee would begin to cry with lowd  
royes (as blind men uſe to doe) who  
will heare ſuch a deuour prayer, or  
eſſe the life of ſome Saince? At  
dinner or ſupper time, hee had al-  
waies before him a little pot full of  
wine, which oftentimes I would lay  
hand on, and after two or three kiſ-  
ſes ſend it him ſecretly home againe:  
But that happy time continued but  
a while, for I was wont to leave ſo  
little behind me, that he might ſoone  
eſpy the fault, as indeed immediate-  
ly he did miſtruſt the whole matter:  
wherefore he began a new order, not  
to leave his wine any more at ran-  
dome, but to avoyd danger, had al-  
waies his little pot faſt by the care, ſo  
to bee ſure of his drinke.  
Yet notwithstanding, for all this,  
the Adamant ſtone had never ſuch  
vertue

**C**

*The Spaniards Life.*

vertue to draw iron to it, as I had to  
suck up this wine with a long reed,  
which I had prepared for the pur-  
pose: for, as soone as the end of my  
reed had bene once in, I might  
well desire him to fill the pot againe.  
Yet, at the last, the craftie blind-  
man chanced to feele me, and being  
angrie, determined to take another  
way, to place his pot betweene his  
legs, covering it still with his hand,  
so to avoyd all former dangers:  
when he had so done, I being accu-  
stomed to drinke wine, did long to  
taste of it, and perceiving that my  
reed could then no more prevaile at  
all, I deuised another kind of fetch,  
how to make a hole at the bottome  
of his wine pot, and to stop the same  
with a little soft wax, so that at din-  
ner time, making a shew as I were  
ready to dye for cold, I would creep  
betweene the blind mans legs, to  
warme my selfe at his small fire, by  
the



*The Spaniards Life.*

the heat whereof, the wax being little in quantitie, would so melt away, that the wine would issue down into my mouth, freshly and trim. I being sure to gape upward so fast, that one drop should never fall beside. So that when my Blinde Master would taste of his wine, hee should neuer find drop to quench his thirst, whereat he would much mervell, cursing and swearing all manner of othes, yet wishing the pot, &c all that was within it, at the Deuill, musing still how his wine should bee so consumed away. Then straightwaies to excuse my selfe, I would say, I trust you will not mistrust me, gentle ynde, seeing that the pot came neuer out of your owne hand. Whereupon then to be well informed of the truth, he began to feele and to grope the pot over so often, that at last hee found the spring, and at that time assembled quietly the matter, as if

*The Spaniards Life.*

he had perceined nothing. The next day I began againe to prepare my selfe after my accustomed sort to take my pleasure of his wine, being ignorant of the euill that should ensue, thinking that my master would neuer haue mistrusted mee about such a matter, wherefore I was merry and carelesse. But my cruell master, perceining after what strange sort I receiued those sweet drops of wine, which came forth as a quick spring at his pots bottome, my face bent towards Heauen, mine eyes in manner closed, so to receiue with more delight, and better taste that pleasant liquor, which I thought did preserve my life: the malicious blinde man hauing time of reuengement at his will, lifted vp the sweet and soure pot (as I may say) and with all his force, clapped it so rudely upon my face, that I thought verily Heauen above, and all therein

*The Spaniards Life.*

therein, had fallen upon mee. The  
cruell blow was such, that it tooke  
away my senses, it troubled sore my  
braines, and my face was all cut  
with peeces of the broken pot; yea,  
and some of my teeth were then  
broken, which as yet is seene, wher-  
fore I neuer loued him after, how-  
beit he cherished me daily: yet for  
all the false loue & frendship which  
hee shewed, I perceiued right well  
how glad he was, that he had so pu-  
nished mee.

To make me amends, he washed  
with wine the wounds, which the  
vnhappy pot had made, and after  
much laughing sayd, What sayest  
thou to this my boy, the wine that  
hath done thee hurt, shall now heale  
thee againe, and such other merry  
jests, which I vtterly misliked. As  
soone as I began to recouer, and that  
my face was in manner healed, I con-  
sidered with my selfe, how that with

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few more such blowes, the blinde man might quickly bring me to my grave: And therefore determined to shorten his dayes, if I could, which thing I went not about immediatly, but tarried a due time, for mine own safety and advantage.

And whereas afterwards I went about to forget mine anger, and to forgive him the blow, the euill vsage and entertainment which hee daily shewed me, would in no wise consent thereto. For still he tormented me with sore blowes, without any offence, or fault at al. And when any man demanded, why he handled me so cruelly, straightwayes he would rise and declare the discourse of his plot, saying; Doe you not thinke this childe is some innocent, and alwayes at the end of his tale, these would be his words; Who, vnlesse the Devill himselfe, could have found out such rare pranks; The people

*The Spaniards Life.*

people would much marvell at my  
invention, and blessing themselves,  
would say unto my masters Punish  
him, punish him, God will reward  
you therefore: which thing hee did  
continually, and would haue done  
without their bidding: wherefore I  
daily led him thorow the worst  
waies I could finde possibly, all for  
very spite, minding if I could, to do  
him harme: where I might espy  
stones or mire, I would even thorow  
the thickest: and although I could  
neuer escape dry foot, I was glad  
with losing one of mine owne eyes,  
to put out both his that neuer had  
any. At such times of his sorrowes,  
to be reuenged, hee would take hold  
with his nailes, on the hinder part of  
my head, where with his often pul-  
ling, he had left very few haire be-  
hinde: it would neuer auile mee  
then to say, that I could finde no  
better way, nor yet to sweare, how I  
did

He was  
borne  
blind.

*The Spaniards' Life.*

did not leade him that naughty way  
maliciously, for hee was so subtrill,  
that to my words hee would giue  
small credit.

But now, because your Worship  
shall vnderstand, how far his craft  
did extend, I will declare one chance  
amongst many, which happened in  
the time I serued him, wherein he see-  
meth to giue full vnderstanding of  
his subtilty: When wee departed out  
of *Salamanca*, his intent was to come  
to the City of *Toledo*, knowing that  
the people were richer there, than in  
other places, although not so chari-  
table, yet for all that, leaning to his  
old prouerbe: *More giueth the gin-  
gard than the naked*, wee tooke our  
voyage thorow the best villages we  
could finde, where wee found great  
gaine and profit, continuing after  
such sort a certaine time: and where,  
as wee liked not our entertainment,  
the third day wee would bee sure to  
take

*The Spaniards Life.*

take our leaue, and to end our yeere.  
It fortuned at the last, that wee arri-  
ued at a towne which is called *Al-*  
*more*, at such time as they gathered  
their grapes, where one of the vine-  
yard gaue my master a whole bunch,  
which by reason of the late time,  
were more than ripe, so that some  
were ready to fall from the bunch:  
wherefore hee could by no meanes  
carrie it in his bag, by reason it was  
so moyst. Therefore he determined  
to make a sumptuous banquet with it,  
partly because he had no meanes to  
cary it vwith him, and partly because  
he thought there with to please mee,  
which had receiued that day many  
cruell blowes.

As soone as wee found a valley fit  
for the purpose, wee sate vs downe,  
and my master said; *Lozaro* my  
boy, I will novv vse a great liberality  
towards thee, it is my pleasure, that  
both of us shall eat friendly toge-  
ther

*The Spaniards Life.*

ther this bunch of grapes, whereof thy part shall bee as much as mine, wee will part it after this sort, thou shalt take one grape, and I another, promising mee faithfully, that thou wilt not take above one at a time, and I will doe the like to thee, and so wee will quietly end our bunch, without any fraud or guile on either part.

Vpon that condition we agreed, and began our banquet: but my master belike forgetting his promise, did soon change purpose, for immediately he began to picke the grapes by two & two, thinking peradventure that I would doe the like, as hee might well thinke. Indeed I was not far behinde him, for as soon as I perceived that he had broken the law, I was not content to goe by two and two, as he did, but went before him, taking vp by two & three together, & sometime more, as I was best able.

When



*The Spaniards Life.*

When the bunch was ended, hee  
ooke the stalk in his hand; and wag-  
ging his head, said; *Let me thou hast*  
*deceitued mee, by God thou hast ea-*  
*ten by three and three.* I merly de-  
nied it, and sayd, *Indeepe vncle it is*  
*not true: why should you think so?*  
Then he like a crafty blinde man an-  
swered; *I did perceiue straightwaies*  
*how the matter went, for when I be-*  
*gan to take vp by two & two, thou*  
*neuer didst finde fault, but didst keep*  
*silence. I then laughed to my selfe,*  
*although I was but young, I consider-*  
*ed well his discreet consideration.*  
Now Sir, to aloyd long talke, I  
will leaue a part many matters, as  
well plesant, as worthy to be co-  
red, which have fortunued to mee  
with this my first master. I will on-  
ly tell what happened a little before I  
departed: wee came to *Scalona*, a  
towne of the Dukes, and when wee  
were at our lodging, hee gaue mee a  
peece

*The Spaniards Life.*

Here they  
use few  
gridirons  
but al spits  
& doe roste  
over-  
thwart the  
coles. A  
Marevedi,  
is the sixt  
part of an  
English  
Penny.

peece of a sausedge to roste, the  
which being almost enough, and the  
fat dropped and pressed out vpon  
thin slices of bread, as the fashion is,  
and those being eaten, hee drew his  
purse, & boldly drew out a *Marevedi*,  
willing me to fetch the value thereof  
in wine. The Deuill, who as (they  
say) is the occasion that men become  
theenes, was ready at hand to pre-  
pare opportunity to deceiue him.  
It fortun'd, that neere the fire there  
lay a little roote, somewhat long and  
euill fauoured, such an one as belike,  
was not seruicicable for the pot, and  
therefore was left there as able to  
and as at that time there was no more  
but hee and I alone, I felt my selfe  
pinched with a liquorish appetite,  
my teeth being set an edge with the  
sweet saour of his roasted sausedge  
(the which was the onely witnesse  
that I should be the eater thereof) I  
not regarding what the sequel might  
be

*The Spaniards Life.*

be, laying aside all manner of feare,  
for to fulfill my rash desire, in the  
meane while, that the blinde man  
was drawing his purse, I whipt off  
quickly the sausedge from the spit,  
and thereon broached the foresaid  
worm-eaten root, which my ma-  
ster most willingly tooke, and began  
to rime, thinking to roste that which  
for the goodnesse, was not worthy  
to be boyled.

So I went for wine, and by the  
way I made a faire end of my sau-  
sedge, and as soone as I came in a-  
gaine, I found my master wringing  
betweene two slices of bread, the  
naughty root, not knowing what it  
was: for with his finger, he had not  
as yet touched it. Immediately af-  
ter he began to eat, taking a large bit  
of his bread, meaning to have tasted  
a little of his sausedge, but his teeth  
entred into the root, where he found  
a cold morfell: whereat hee being  
fore

fore abashed, shewed it to mee, and  
said, *Lanero*, what meanest thou?  
I then answered: Now Iesus what  
is this? Alas wretch that I am, doe  
you meane to blame me; you know  
well that I came but now from the  
Tauerne with wine; surely some  
naughty man hath been here, that  
hath done this in despite or mock-  
age. No, no, then said he, that can  
not bee possible, for I neuer let the  
spir goe licence out of mine owne  
hands. Then to cleere my selfe, I be-  
gan to sweare all othes, that I was  
innocent of that vile exchange: but  
all was in vaine, for from the subtil-  
ty of that ingracious blinde man  
nothing could be kept hid.

Hee rose vp and tooke fast hold  
on my heeles to smell whether hee  
could feele the fauour of his lade-  
ledge: and as soone as euer hee felt  
occasion to suspect that I had eaten  
it, he was as glad he a good bloud-  
hound,

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hound, that had his chafe in the  
winder. Wherefore, to be better en-  
formed of the truth, being fore bin-  
ded with anger, he rashly opened  
my mouth with the strength of his  
hands, so that perforce I was faine  
to gape etien to the uttermost, and  
then he thrusteth in all hast, into my  
mouth, his worne-eaten nose,  
which was both long and sharpe,  
yea, which at that time by reason of  
great anger, was lengthned a long  
handfull, so that the pike therof did  
gash my throte. Wherefore, partly  
by reason of feare that I was in,  
and partly because the sausege in  
such short time was not fitted in  
my stomach, but most of all, by  
reason of the great trouble which  
his monstrous nose put me to, wher-  
with he was himselfe choked, I  
was forced to disloose my gluttony,  
so that the sausege of necessity  
returned to his old master againe:  
for

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for my poore stomack was so much altered, that before the blind man had drawen out his hoggish nose, I was even ready to render up the theft. For looke as soone as ever he had pulled out his snoute, the evill eaten saufedge came gushing out after, in honest company. O mightie God, who had bene then buried, might well have looked for my companie, for he was altogether dead: his rage was then so great, that if men had not come in, I think certainly he would have taken away my life. With much ado I got me out of his hands, leaving him with his claws full of that small quantity of haire which I had left, (all which torment hee most iustly deserved, seeing that through his naughtinesse I suffered such persecution.) The ungodly blinde man would then declare to as many as came in, my unfortunate disgraces, rehear-

*The Spaniards Life.*

rehearsing often over, as well the Tale of his Pot, and of the bunch of Grapes, as also this last tricke of his Sawfedge. The laughter that men made was so great, that all such as were in the street came in to see the Feast, where he recited with such grace all my misadventures, that me thought verily, I did them great wrong in not laughing for company. When all this was past, there came to my minde a certaine faint and a slothfull cowardnesse which I had committed, in not leaving him noselesse, seeing that I had time fit for the purpose: yea, and that I had gone halfe the way to do it. For if I had but closed my teeth together, his Nose had never gone more abroad: and truly I beleeve, because it was the Nose of that naughty man, it would have better agreed with my stomack, than the Sawfedge did, for had it once beene invisible, I

D                      might

*The Spaniards Life.*

might well have denied it him againe. Now I would to God my teeth had done their part, for it had beene better so, then otherwise. The hostesse, and other that were there, made us friends, and with the Wine which I had brought for his supper, they washed my face and my throat which his nailes had all torne.

Whereat he made much grudging, saying, Certainly this Boy doth consume me more Wine in a yeare, with washing his wounds than I doe drinke in two. Without doubt *Lazaro*, thou art more bound to Wine, than to thy Father, for he only begot thee once, and it hath saved thy life a thousand times, and so declared how many times hee had wounded me, and healed me againe with Wine, and then said againe: I promise thee truly *Lazaro*, if any man in the world shall have happy chance with Wine, it is thou.

Which



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Which words caused those that were there, to laugh heartily, I being still in most sorrowfull despaire. But looke what the blind man prognosticated then, it was not all in vaine, for his sayings at that time prooved afterward most true : wherefore I have oftentimes sithence called to minde his words, whereby it appeared that hee had a great gift in prophesying, and therefore it hath often repent-d me of my cruell dealing towards him, although his deserts were evill, seeing that his words of Prophecie proved so true, as hereafter your worship shall plainly understand.

To conclude, his evill nature and my usage considered, I determined to forsake him for ever : and as I imagined daily thereupon, desirous to depart, this his last deed perswaded me fully thereunto, and the matter chanced to fall out thus: Within

*The Spaniards Life.*

two dayes after, wee went through the Citie to demaund mens charities, where it had rained much the night before, and because likewise it rained fore that day, my Master went praying under certaine Portalls that are there, where it was dry. When night did approach, the raine continuing still, he said unto me, *Lazaro*, this raine is without end, for the more that night draweth on, the more earnest it is: let us draw homeward to our lodging. But as it chanced, we had betweene us and home, a great wide Gutter which the raine had made; wherefore I said, Vncle, this Gutter is very broad and swift, so that wee shall have much ado to passe: notwithstanding I have now espyed one narrow place, where we may well leape over drier foote. He thought verily then, that I had given him good and friendly counsell, and therefore said, my good Boy,

*The Spaniards Life.*

Boy, now I perceive you are wise, I must needs love thee: therefore I pray thee leade me to the narrowest place, where I may best escape, for now in Winter it is not good to take water, especially to goe wershoo. O how glad I was then to see the time which long before I had wished for, wherefore without delay, I brought him from underneath the Portals, and led him right against a great Pillar of Stone which stood in the Market place, and then said, Vncle this is the very narrowest place of all the Gutter.

Then streight wayes, by reason of the great Raine that fell upon him, and also because of his great hast to bee under covert, and chiefly, for that God himselfe had at that time so blinded his understanding, to give me good time of revengement, hee gave full credit to my words and said, *Lazaro*, let mee see now how

*The Spaniards Life.*

thou canst set me where I must take my jumpe, and then leape thou over on Gods name : I did so, for when I had taught him his place, I leaped as far as I could, and tooke standing behinde the Post, as one that had watched the re-encounter of a Bull : and then I said, now Vncle leape boldly as farre as you can possibly; for else you may chance wet your selfe. I had not so soone said the word, but that incontinently the poore blinde man was ready to take his race, returning a Pace or two backe from the standing, and so with great force tooke his leape, throwing forward his body like a Bucke, that at the last his head tooke such a monstrous blow against the cruell stony Pillar, that his head sounded withall, as it had been a Leather Bottle, whereupon hee fell backe with his cloven Pate, halfe dead: then gave I a leape and said, how now Vncle,

*The Spaniards Life.*

Vncle, could you smell the Sawfedge  
so well, and why uot the pillar I  
pray you? prove now a little what  
you can doe.

So I left him there, betweene the  
hands of many men that came in  
all hast to helpe him; and tooke my  
ready way straight towards the  
towne gate, with no slow pace, and  
then trotted so fast forward, that be-  
fore night I arrived at *Tortois*. After  
that time I never understood,  
nor yet sought to know  
what God Almighty  
did with him.

\* \* \*

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D 4

How

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*The Spaniards Life.*

How Lazaro placed himselfe,  
with a Priest, and what thing  
happened to him in his  
service.



THE next day after,  
doubting of mine  
owne safety there, I  
departed thence and  
went to a Village  
which is called *Me-  
keda*, where I met for my sinnes, with  
a Priest, who as soone as he espied  
how that I demaunded Almes, did  
enquire whether I could helpe to  
Masse: I answered, saying, yea Sir,  
that I can, as truth it was: for al-  
though the blinde man had used mee  
scarce well, hee taught mee to doe a  
thousand feates, whereof this was  
one. The Priest received me for his  
owne: so I escaped then from the  
Thunder. & came into the Tempest,  
yea,

*The Spaniards Life.*

yea, and God knoweth, how from  
evill, to ten times worse; for the  
blinde man was in comparison of  
this Master, a great *Alexander*. How-  
beit, hee was so covetous aniggard,  
as heretofore I have rehearsed. All  
the misery in the World, was inclo-  
sed within this wretched Priest, for  
he had alwayes a great old Coffer,  
wherein he continually locked with  
a Key which did hang at the point of  
his Coate, all the Bread that came  
from the Church at offerings, for-  
getting at no time to leave the same  
unlocked, being his onely store-  
house and Buttery. For about all  
the house a man might discerne no-  
thing that could be eaten, neither  
Bacon hung in the Chimney, nor  
Cheeses layd upon shelves, nor yet  
broken Bread in some odde corner,  
as commonly in other houses one  
should finde, which things, so that  
I might onely have seene and not ta-  
sted,

*The Spaniards Life.*

sted, the sight would have comforted me much. All the provision hee had, was a Rope of Onions, in a high Garret, kept also under a sure locke and key: my allowance was onely an Onion for every foure dayes. And when I should come for the key to take my due, if there were any stranger by, he would thrust his hand into his bolome, and with much modesty would say, take the key, see it be immediately delivered mee againe, thou doest nothing but cram up meate. So that he that had heard him, would have judged there had been under the custody of that key, all the confectures of *Valentia*. But for any thing that was there, beside the Rope of Onions that hung on a Naile, the Divell himselfe might have had part, and of them hee kept such straight account, that if I had taken at any time more than my Ordinary, I should dearely have bought it.

After



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After that I had continued a while with him, I was ready every houre to fall downe dead for hunger. His use was, to Dine and Sup with as much flesh as mounted to the value of five Blankes, whereof I was sure never to taste, unlesse it were of the Broth, which somerimes he would friendly part betweene us, and so for Bread, I would to God I might have had halfe as much as was sufficient. Vpon Saterdayes, as the custome was in that Citie, hee would send me for a Sheepes-head that should cost three Marevedies, whereof when it was sod, hee would eate both the eyes, the tongue, and the braine, yea, and all the flesh on both the cheeke bones: Then reaching me the platter, with a few naked Bones would say, take downe this to thee, and rejoyce, seeing that thou hast the world at will: I am sure the Pope himselfe hath now no better

A Blanke  
the xii.  
part of an  
English  
penny The  
custome is  
there upon  
Saturday  
to eat the  
heads, the  
feet and  
bowels of  
all beasts  
with his  
licence.

Two  
blankes a  
Marevedt.

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better life than thou hast: then would I answer him, with low voyce, God send thee alwayes the like. I had not dwelt with him three weeks, but I was so leane that my legs were scarce able to beare me : the hunger was so great which I sustained, that I never thought to escape death, unlesse that Gods helpe and mine owne industry, would finde some remedy to save my life. And for to use my accustomed subtilty, there was not wherewithall, seeing that there was nothing there to give assault unto: yea, although there had beene, I might never have beene able to deceive him, as I had done the poore blinde man, upon whom I pray God take mercy, if he be dead with his last blow. For howbeit hee was crafty, yet wanting his precious sight, I was sure he could never see what I hourelly did. But there was never man that had quicker eyesight  
than

*The Spaniards Life.*

than this Priest. For at offering time, the silver was not so soon false into the Basen, but that straight he had it registred, having alwayes one eye to my hand, and another to the people: and his eyes would so roll in his head, as if they had beene of Quicksilver. As soone as offering was done, hee would take the Basen out of my hands, and lay it upon the Altar, so that I was never able to deceive him of one blanke.

And whiles I continued with him, (or to say better,) whiles that I consumed my selfe in this miserable service, hee never sent me to the Taverne, for as much as the value of a Blanke in Wine, but that small quantitie which he had offered on the Sunday, he kept alwayes in his Coffer so sparingly, that it would last him all the weeke over. And for to hide his covetousnesse, hee would sometimes say unto me, my Boy, all Priests

*The Spaniards Life.*

A Sainter  
is a kinde  
of drunken  
Prophets  
in Spaine,  
which take  
upon them  
the healing  
of mad  
dogs.

Lazaro  
had not  
cared  
though the  
King had  
dyed, so  
that hee  
might  
have had  
meat to  
stay his  
hunger.

Priests ought to be sober in eating  
and drinking, and therefore I dare  
not breake order as many other doe.  
Now you shall see how the Miser li-  
ed falsely therein, for at burials and  
Dirges, where he had meat at other  
mens charges, hee would eate like a  
Woolfe, more then foure men, and  
drinke as it were a Sainter: and be-  
cause his Office was alwayes to say  
Dirge, at such times ( God forgive  
me ) I was alwayes an enemy to hu-  
mane nature, and onely, because that  
then we should fare well, and have  
meat at liberty, I wished and prayed  
God that he would every day call up  
one to heaven. When wee went to  
minister the Sacrament to such as  
were sicke, my Master would desire  
those that were there, to pray for the  
sicke man; surely I was never one of  
the last that prayed, desiring God  
with all my heart, not that hee would  
doe to the patient according to his  
will,

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will, (as other prayed) but that hee would dispatch him out of the world: and when any of them escaped death. I was ready (God forgive me) to wish him at the Devill, and whosoever dyed, was sure to have of me many blessings, and prayers for his soule. I dwelt with this Master about six moneths, and in that time there dyed onely twenty persons, which I certainly flew, for at the least, the earnest request of my prayers was cause of their death: for God the Father perceiving the raging hunger which I continually sustained, rejoiced (as I thinke) to slay them, to save my life thereby, considering that otherwise my disease could not be remedied, for I was never at ease but when wee had burials: The day that there was none, my teeth should have no worke, my heart would faint, because that I had beene used sometimes

*The Spaniard's Life.*

to have my belly filled. At such times I found ease in nothing but in death, which, then I wished, as well for my selfe, as I had done before for the sicke men. I determined oftentimes to depart from that miserable Master, yet fearing so doe, for two cause<sup>s</sup>, first, because I durst not trust my legges, which by hunger were brought to great weakenesse; secondly, considering with my selfe, Taying, I have had two Masters, with the first I dyed for hunger, whom when I had forsaken I chanced upon this other, which with the very same disease hath a'most brought me to my grave: therefore I made account, that if I should forsake the second, and meete with a third that were worse then these two, then there were no remedie but plaine death. Wherefore I never durst depart from him, being assured to finde all estates worse and worse,  
knowing

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knowing that to descend another degree, *Lazaro* should be soone forgotten, being once rid out of this world.

And being in such affliction (God of his grace deliver every faithfull Christian from the like) not knowing how to counsell my selfe, my misery daily increasing, upon a day, when by chance my wretched master had gone abroad, there arrived by chance to the doore a Tinker, which I beleieve was an Angell disguised, sent from God, who demanded for worke: I answered sottly, thou hast enough to amend in mee, and I beleieve more than thou canst doe. But as it was no time then to delay the matter, (by divine inspiration) I said unto him, Vncle, I have lost the Key of this Coffer, I feare that my Master will beat mee; for Gods sake looke amongst your Keyes if there be any that will open it, I

*Lazaro was a good Christian beleevving that all goodnesse came from God.*

E will

*The Spaniards Life.*

will consider your paines: the heavenly Tinker began to assay, now one Key, now another, of this great bunch, and I helped him with my prayers, so that immediately before I was aware, he opened it: whereof I was so glad, that me-thought I did see in figure, (as they say) the face of God, when I beheld the bread within it: and when he had done all, I said unto him, I have no money, but take this for my paiment: so hee tooke one of the fairest loaves, and after he had delivered mee the Key, hee departed right-well pleased, and I as well content as hee.

At that time I touched nothing, partly, because I perceived my selfe to be the Lord of such Treasure, that by reason of that Key, hunger durst never againe approach mee. Incontinently after, who commeth in, but my unhappy Master, and as God would, hee never tooke heed



*The Spaniards Life.*

of the loate, which the heavenly Tinker had borrowed.

The next day after, as soone as hee went abroad, I began to open my Paradise of Bread, and what betweene my hands and my teeth, with the twinkling of an eye I made a loafe invisible, forgetting in no wise to locke the Chest againe: then I began cheerefully to sweepe the house, judging that by such remedy I might ease my sorrowfull life. So I passed that day and the next, with much mirth. But my contrary Fortune went about to hinder mee to enjoy such pleasure long, for the third day just, a certain Ague came upon mee, in perceiving him that had slain me with hunger, at an undue houre, over the Chest, turning and tossing, accounting and reckoning his Bread.

I dissembled the matter, as I had  
E s not

*The Spaniards Life.*

not perceived him, and in my secret prayer and devotion, I prayed Saint *Iohn* to blinde him. And after that he had beene a good while casting his account upon his fingers, hee said unto mee, if it were not that this Coffer is so sure, I would say that some of my bread hath beene taken away, but from henceforth I will keepe good account of it, there is now nine loaves left besides a broken piece : then said I with lowe voyce, nine evils God send unto thee. It seemed unto mee with that which hee had said, my heart to be pierced through with an arrow, and my stomacke began to rive for hunger, perceiving how I was put to my former dyet. Hee then departed out, and I opened the said Coffer to comfort my selfe a little, and beholding the bread, which I durst not touch, but worshipping it, I beheld and counted it over, to see if the

*The Spaniards Life.*

the wretch had over-reckoned himselfe : but I found his account more just, than I would have wished it by the one halfe : the most that I could doe, was to give it a thousand kisses, and to cut a little delicately, of that place where it was cut before : and with that I passed over that day, yet not so merrily as I did the other. But now because two or three dayes before I had bread at will, the appetite in my stomacke did increase in such sort, that I was almost dead for hunger : wherefore being alone, I did nothing but open and locke againe the Coffer, beholding alwayes that bread as a God. And God himselfe which succoureth those that are afflicted, seeing me in such necessity, brought a little remedy unto my memory, which was, that I remembered with my selfe this Coffer to bee old and broken in many places, and although the holes were little, yet

*The Spaniards Life.*

might it be thought that Mice had entred therein to damage the Bread. And to take out a whole Loafe, the Wretch would soone espie the fault, yet this may be better borne withall: so then I began to claw the Bread with my Nailles, upon a simple Napkin that was there, taking one Loafe and leaving another, so that of every third or fourth, I would be sure to take some Crummes, and even as if they were Confects, I did swallow the same, to comfort my stomacke. When hee should come to dinner, opening his Chest, and espying incontinently the hurt, hee did judge that Rats had done that spoyle, for I had so counterfeited their gnawing, that any man would have thought the same: wherefore he sought all corners of the Chest, and at the last he espied certaine holes where he suspected they had entred: whereupon he called me in all haste, saying

*The Spaniards Life.*

saying; *Lazaro*, see here what persecution hath beene done this night upon our Bread. I began to marvell, demanding what it should be? what should it be, said he, but Rats, which leave nothing whole? we went then to dinner, and as God would, I had better allowance than I was wont; for with his Knife, he pared away all that, which he thought the Mice had touched, saying; Take, eate this my Boy, Mice are cleane.

I chanced that day to fare better, for hee augmented my allowance with that which I had made, by the travell of my hands, or to say trueth, of my Nayles. We ended our dinner for all that, somewhat too soone, yet there came another plunge upon mee, perceiving howv the Priest vvas earnest, in pulling nailes out of the vwall, and seeking little boords, to stop the holes againe: vwherefore I said to my selfe ( Lord God ) unto

*The Spaniards Life.*

how many perils and calamities of Fortune, are humane creatures subjected? How short a time doe the pleasures of our troublesome life last? Lo where I am now, which trusted by this my poore remedy, to ease my misery, being in best hope of good adventure, my evill lucke would not consent, but opened the sight of my covetous Masters understanding, causing him to have more subtrill wit then he had given him by nature, although such wretches are commonly subtrill enough.

When hee had damned up the holes, I thought his Chest should be shut to my comfort, and opened to my paine, and therefore I never left lamenting, untill that the curious Carpenter with his company of boords, had ended his worke of nayling, and when he had done, said: Now yee traytorly Mice, you must change purpose, for there is no more  
profit

*The Spaniards Life.*

profit for you in this house. A  
soone as ever he went abroad, I went  
to view his worke, and I perceived  
that he had not left in his old Chest  
one hole unstopped, not so much as  
a place for a flie to get in: notwithstanding, without hope of gaine, I  
opened the Chest with my unprofitable key, & there visited two loaves  
begun, which hee had thought the  
Mice had carved, and from them  
once againe, I scraped a little quantity, touching them lightly, like a  
nimble Master of Defence, for Necessity, at that time my Mistresse,  
caused me day and night to imagine,  
how I might live & seeke remedy for  
my sore, wherunto hunger taught me  
the way, which commonly maketh  
men have ready wits. I began then  
to study about my affaires, seeking  
meanes to draw some commodity  
out of the said covetous Coffer: perceiving one night, that my Master  
slept

*The Spaniards Life.*

slept soundly (or at least made mee  
believe so) by his snorting and blow-  
ing. I rose on my feet, and as I had  
taken order with my selfe the day  
before, what should be done that  
night, I had left an old Knife, which  
was cast about the house, in a place  
where it might bee found at  
need, and went to that happy Coffer;  
and where it seemed to have least de-  
fence, I gave the assault with my ru-  
sty knife, which served my turne  
well for a Wimble: but the Chest, by  
reason of good yeares, being weake,  
without strength, very soft and ten-  
der; did straightwayes render and  
consent, that I should make, for my  
commodity, a good hole in the side  
of it; and that done, opening the  
wounded Chest, and knowing every  
loose severally by the touch, I did as  
I had done before, and by that  
meanes being somewhat comforted,  
having locked the Chest againe, I re-  
turned



*The Spaniards Life.*

turned to my Pallet, whereupon I slept little (and as I thinke) mine evening Supper was cause of that; for otherwise at that time of the night the King of France his cares, could never breake me of my sleepe.

On the morning, the Priest my Master, perceiving the hurt which was done, as well to the bread, as to the Coffer, began to curse the Mice, saying; What meaneth this? there was never Mouse wont to goe here before now: and certainly his words were true; for if any Mouse in the whole Kingdome might bee privileged from Mice, it might be his, for Mice are never wont to dwell, where no parings of meat doe fall. But now hee began againe to seeke nailes about the walls, and little boards, to make defence against the traytorous Mice: But as soone as night came, that he went to his rest, I rose up with my tooles, and looked  
what

*The Spaniards Life.*

what he stopped in the day time, I broke up again in the night : Finally, the one and the other of us took such paine, that this proverbe was fulfilled, When one doore is shut, the other openeth : At the last, wee seemed to have *Penelopes* web in hand, whatsoever he wrought in the day, I undid againe in the night, in so much, that we brought the poore Coffer to such estate, that whosoever would properly talke of it, might compare it to an old Boat or Brigantine, for that number of old Nayles, that was driven into each side of it, When he saw his remedy prevailed not, he said, This Coffer is so old, and so weake, that it is no longer able to defend our victuals from vermine, it is now at that point, that if I meddle any more with it, the more it will decay, and so at length be able to doe us no service at all, and peradventure, evill fortune will cause me spend

*The Spaniards Life.*

spend two or three shillings to buy another : the best remedy that I can finde, seeing this doth not prevaile, is to set up a 'Trap within it', to take these cruell Rats : whereupon, hee went immediately, and borrowed one of his neighbours, which hee had continually bent within the Coffer, with a bait of Cheese-paring, which was laid onely for my comfort and ease, for although I could well have eaten my bread alone, without the helpe of any thing else, to cause my appetite, yet the Cheese-paring, which I would pull out of the Trap, gave me trim taste with my Mouse-eaten bread.

But when he should perceive the bread so spoyled with Rats, and the Cheese eaten, & the Rat that did the deed not taken, then would he wish the trap at the Devill, demanding of his neighbours what it might be, that the Cheese should be eaten, and the  
Rat

*The Spaniards Life.*

Rat not taken, yea and the Trap fallen ? The neighbours would answer, that it was no Rat that did that harme, for at one time or other shee had been taken.

Snakes  
wont there  
to resort  
much into  
mens hou-  
ses for  
food.

And amongst the rest one said, I doe remember that a Snake was wont to haunt your house, and by all reason it is she that hath done the deed; for she being long, might easily eat the Cheese, and although the Trap did fall, yet because her body entred not in all, she might well and easily get out and scape.

This neighbours saying did satisfie the whole company, and especially my Master, which from that time forward never slept one night soundly, for when he had heard the least noyse amongst the wood, hee would thinke that it were the Snake gnawing the Coffer, vvhwherefore he vvhould straight be up vvhith a cudgell, vvhich sithence hee entred into such  
suspicion

*The Spaniards Life.*

suspicion, vvas alwayes ready at his  
beds head, vvherevvith he vvould beat  
the poore Coffe so hard, to feare the  
Snake, that hee vvaked all the neigh-  
bours vvith the noyse.

And as for me; I never slept, for  
oftentimes in the night, hee would  
turne me and my Pallet over and o-  
ver, thinking that the Snake had got-  
ten thither into my bed, or into my  
apparell; for hee was informed, that  
those beasts oftentimes seeking heat,  
have come into childrens Cradles,  
and bitten them to death. I would  
alwayes make as though I slept; then  
hee would in the morning say unto  
me: O *Lazaro*, hast thou heard no  
noyse this night, I did pursue the  
Snake, and I was afraid she had got-  
ten into thy bed, for they are colde,  
and therefore seeke heat. Then an-  
swered I, I pray God shee hath not  
bitten mee; I feare Snakes as the  
Devill.

Hee

*The Spaniards Life.*

He continued in such fearefull phantasie, that he never slept, so that I being the Snake, durst never approach the Coffe, but onely in the day time, whiles he was at Church, or abroad in the towne, then would I make my assault: whereof when hee had knowledge, perceiving that hee was not able to find any further remedy, would every night (as I have told you) be raging mad. All that I feared then was, that hee with his diligence would meet with my privie key, which I had hid under the bed-straw: but for more surety, at night time, I would alwayes keepe it in my mouth, for when that I dwelt with the blinde man, I had brought my mouth to such use, by conveying money unto it, that it served me often for a purpose. I can well remember, when somtimes I have had in it fourteene or fifteene Deniers, and not hindred my eating, otherwise I had  
never

*The Synners Life.*

never beene master of denier, (but  
that the cursed blind man would  
have found it out, not tearing one  
seame or wrinkle of my coate un-  
fought.

Therefore as I tell you, I did every  
night put the key in my mouth for a  
safegard, and by that meanes I slepe  
soundly, not fearing that he should  
find it. Notwithstanding, when that  
the euil houre could not be escaped,  
my diligence was all but vaine: it  
pleased my fatall destinie (or to say  
truth) my sinnes, that upon a night  
when I was a sleepe, the key hap-  
ped so to turne in my mouth, being  
wide open, in such sort, that my  
breath comming forth through the  
hole of the key, which was hollow,  
made such loude whistling (as euill  
fortune would) that my carefull  
master heard it, who thought cer-  
tainely that it had beene the hissing  
of the Snake, (as surely it might bee

F

like

*The Spaniards Life.*

likd) he rose up very softly, holding  
his cudgell fast, and by the noyse of  
the hissing came by little and little  
sweight to me, without making any  
noyse, to the intent the Snake  
should not heare him. When hee  
was nere me, hee thought certaine-  
ly that the snake was there in the  
strawve, wherefore hee lifted up his  
cudgell to kill her, and vvith all his  
strength he discharged upon my  
head such a cruell blowve, that hee  
vvounded me to death. Whereupon  
he knowing that he had striken me,  
bolike by the groning that I made  
after the receite of the blowe, sus-  
pecting vvhat had hapned, cried out to  
awake me, but as soone as he touch-  
ed me vvith his hands, he felt abun-  
dance of blond issue out of my  
head: wherefore considering vvhat  
hurt he had done mee, he vvent in  
hast for a candle, and returning vvith  
it in his hand, found me groning and  
gasping



*The Spaniards Life.*

gasp[ing] with my key in my mouth  
which I never let goe, being halfe  
out, even as it was when it made  
such hissing, whereat the killer of  
Snakes marvellled, especially when  
he beheld the key, which he took  
out of my mouth, and viewing it,  
he perceined what it was, for in  
workmanship it differeth nothing  
from his. But for more surer[ly] hee  
went streight to proue it, and so then  
espied the whole deceite. God  
knoweth then how he bragged, that  
he had taken the Bat and the Snake  
that had made him such warre, and  
that so destroyed his bread: what  
happened the three daies following,  
I am not able to tell, for I was as it  
were in a Whales belly, but only  
this that I haue told you: which I  
had heard my master report, after  
that I was returned to my selfe, for  
he declared the whole matter to as  
many as came in and out.

*The Spaniards Life.*

The third day after, I began to  
recouer, marveling much, when I  
perceiued my selfe beeing in my  
strawe, my head full of plaisters,  
oyles, and oyntments, and being  
there at amazed, I said, what meaneth  
this? The Priest then answered, the  
meaning of this is, that I had chased  
away the Rat and the Snake that  
hath done mee such hurt: then cal-  
ling to mind my affaires, I suspect-  
ed my hurt, and the cause thereof:  
then came therein an old woman,  
with certaine of the neighbours, to  
undo the clouts about my head,  
and to dresse my wounds; and be-  
ing glad to see me recouered, said,  
there is no danger now in him, see-  
ing that he hath his senses; they be-  
gan then to recite my afflictions,  
they laughing and I weeping. After  
all this, they gave me meate, I being  
almost dead for hunger. Much adoe  
they had to recouer me, but by little  
and little

*The Spaniards Life.*

and little I waxed strong, and at xv. dayes end, I rose up and was out of danger, yet not without hunger, howbeit halfe healed. The next day after that I rose, my master took me by the hand, and brought me out at the doore, and leaving me in the streete, said unto me: *Lazare*, from this day forth, thou shalt be at thine owne liberty, and not under my subjection, the Lord be with thee; goe seek thee a master, I have no needs of such a diligent servant, it is not possible, but that thou hast bene servant to some blinde man. And therewith blessing himselfe from me, as though I had bene possessed with some evil spirit, he getteth him in and locketh fast his doore. After being thus forsaken, I stood in the streete, and wept bitterly. How

*The Spawards Case*

How Lazaro placeth himselfe to  
serue a Squire, and what hap-  
ned to him in his service.

**B**Y this meanes I was for-  
ced to helpe my selfe  
being weake, and shortly  
after. I came, by helpe  
of good people, to this noble citie  
of Toledo, where (I thanke God) my  
wound closed up. As long as I was  
sicke, every man gave me his chari-  
tie, but after that I was once whole,  
every man would say, Thou vaga-  
bond and loiterer, why dost thou  
not seeke a master? Then I mur-  
muring with my selfe, would say,  
and where the Diuell shall I finde  
him, unlesse God, as he made the  
world, make me one? But now I  
demanding almes from doore to  
doore for Gods sake, I found little  
remedie

himself, for charity had then ascended up to Heaven.

At the same time God caused mee to meete with a Spaniard, which walked thorow the streets, in very sumptuous apparell, and cleanly, his pace in going, well measured after good order. He beheld me and I him, and hee said unto mee: Boy, dost thou want a master? I answered, I would faine have a good master, sir. Then follow mee, said he: God hath sent mee good fortune to meete with thee, thou hast prayed well this day. I thank God for that which I had heard him say, and for that hee seemed by his behavior and countenance to be even he, that I had so much longed for. I met with this third master betime in the morning, and he led me after him through the most part of the Citie: We passed through the market place, where there was sold Bread, and other

*The Spaniards Life*

Gentle-  
men use to  
buy their  
meate in  
market  
themselves.  
There is  
not such  
provision  
of meate  
in Spaine  
as there is  
in Eng-  
land.

He went so  
late to the  
Church, to  
carry, that  
his dinner  
might be  
made rea-  
dy.

provision: I looked when he would  
haue loden me there with meate, for  
it was then, that every man provided  
and brought things necessaries for  
their dinner. But with comely and  
large pace hee went by, and left that  
place behinde him: then I said to  
my selfe, peradventure he doth not  
see here that which doth content  
him, he will buy in an other place:  
we walked so long that the clocke  
strok eleven, then went he to the  
chiefe Church, and I after him,  
where I sawe him most devoutly  
heare service: when all was ended,  
and the people departed, he came  
out of the Church, and marched  
leisurely downe a streete: and  
for me, I went ioyfully, the best  
content in the world, perceiuing  
how that we did not stay to seeke  
our dinner, imagining that this my  
new master had beene some great  
personage, and that he had his house

not ivorg

provided

*The Spaniards Life.*

provided beforehand, that wee  
should finde dinner ready, yea such  
as I desired, and as I had neede of.  
At that time the cloke stroke one  
after noone, when wee arrived at a  
house before the which my master  
had staid, I with him, then he throw-  
ing his cloake over his left shoul-  
der very cruelly, drew out a key out of  
my sleev to open his dore: we then  
entered in, the entrance whereof was  
folded and unhandsome, that it  
might feare any man living to enter  
in, howbeit, there was within it a  
pretty little court and reasonable  
chambers: and when wee were with-  
in, hee putteth off his cloake, de-  
manding mee whether my hands  
were cleane: we shooke it, and then  
doubled his hands only, and after he  
had blowed cleane the dust away  
from an old bench that was there,  
he laid it up, that being done, hee  
sate him downe, demanding of me at  
large

*The Spaniards Life.*

large what countrey man I was, and how I came to the citie: I gaue him a larger account than I was willing: for I thought it a more conuenient time to command mee to lay the cloath and to take out portage, than to make such inquirance: yet for all that, bringing forth the best dyes I could frame for my selfe, I made him account what I was, reckoning all the goodnesse that was in my personage, leaving apart all that which I thought was not to bee rehearsed in that place: when I had declared all, he stayed awhile, and by that time I did see an euill signe: for it was almost two a clocke, and yet hee was no readier to dine than hee that had bene dead. I mervailed moreover when I perceiued that hee had locked his doore with his key, and that I could not heare any liuing creature stir, neither aboue nor beneath; all that ever I did see was the



## The Spontaneous Life.

the naked walls, not so much, as a chayre or stoole, nor a table, nor yet a coffer, as the other man had; finally you would have said, it had bene a house, not inhabited.

A while after, he demanded of me whether I had dyed: I answered lying, no fir, for it was not eight a clocke when I met with your ma-  
jesty this morning: (then said he) as early as it was, I had broken my fast, and whensoever I breake my fast in the morning, I never eate againe vntill it be night, therefore passe thou over the time as well as thou canst, and wee will make amends at supper: your worship may well thinke that when I heard these words, I was ready to fall downe dead, not so much for hunger, as for plainly perceiuing, that my fortune was altogether mine enemye. Then began my sorrows to appeare vnto me againe, and I to lament my

*The Spaniards Life.*

Poore La-  
zaro did  
beare his  
masters  
dianet &  
his owne  
in his bo-  
some for  
feare of  
lecting it.

misfortune: then came there to my minde, the consideration that I made when I was about to depart from the Priest, weying with my selfe, that although hee was most wretched and miserable, yet peradventure I might meet with a worse: finally, I lamented & wept my troublesome life that was past, and my death that did approach: and yet for all this I dissembled the matter as well as I could, and said unto him, sir, I thanke God, I am a boy that doth not greatly care for eating and drinking, for I may well compare with any of my age for sobernes and measure in eating, and so I haue bene alwayes esteemed of as many masters as I haue serued: hee then answered saying, It is a vertue to liue soberly, therefore I commend thee much: Hogs fill themselves, and wise men eat discreetly, what is only sufficient for them.

*The Spaniards Life.*

I now understand you well sir, said  
to my selfe, euill lucke light upon  
such vertue and goodnesse as these  
my maisters doe finde in hunger:  
immediatly after all this, I contey-  
ned my selfe behinde the dore, where  
I drew certaine peeces of bread out  
of my bosome, which were left of  
that I had receiued for Gods sake  
two dayes before. But he perceiuing  
mee, said, come hither boy, what  
doest thou eate? I came unto him,  
and did shew the bread, whereof he  
tooke a peece, which of two or three  
was the best and the biggest, saying,  
By my soule me thinkes this bread  
is good and sauorous: yea mary sir,  
at this time especially, said I: It is so  
indeed said he, but where hadst thou  
it? was it moulded with clean hands?  
That I know not said I, howbeit I  
finde it good. I pray God it bee  
cleane, said the poore Gentleman:  
and with that putting his hand to  
his

*The Spawards Life.*

his mouth, deuoured quickly all that I had given him: and somewhat before wee had ended, hee said, by God this bread hath a good taste, how sauietous it is. And as for me then, I perceiued upon which foote he halted, I made haste to eat, perceiued him to be so disposed, that if he had made an end before mee, I thought he would gently haue offered to helpe me: therefore wee ended both at one time in good order. He began then with his hand to brush away a few crummes, which had fallen upon his breast, and after that entered into a chamber that was there, and thence brought forth an old pot broken-mouthed, and drank well, and then he offered me the pot. But I to seeme sober and modest, said, sir, I drinke no wine: it is water, said hee, thou maist well drink of it: then I tooke the pot and dranke not much, for it was not thirst, but hun-

In Spaine  
many  
drinke no-  
thing but  
water, and  
some that  
may haue  
wine, but  
this Squire  
dranke it  
for want  
of better.

ger

*The Spaniards Life.*

ger that troubled me. We passed the time so untill that it was night, reasoning of sundry matters which he demanded of me; wherunto I answered as well as I could. Then wee entred into the chamber from whence hee had brought forth his drinking pot, he saying: Boy, goe to the other side, and marke how wee make this bed, that thou maist know how to make it from henceforth. I went to the one side, and he to the other, & made the poore bed, which was an easie matter to doe, for it was thus as I wel tel you: a sheeps hurdle laid ouerthwart two restles, a silly rotten hard mattresse, & upon that his bed clothes, which by reason of seldom washing could not be discerned in colour from the mattres, the which had not half so much wool as need required: we turned it to make it soft, but that was impossible to doe, for very hard it is for a man to make an hard thing soft, and

*The Spaniards Life.*

The streets  
are nar-  
row and  
darke, few  
lanternes  
are hung  
out.

and the deuill a thing was within  
the cruell matresse at all, for when  
it was spread upon the hurdle of big  
sticks, every sticke appeared thorow,  
even as like as could be, to the ribs  
of a carion leane Hogge: wee spread  
upon the hungry miserable mattris,  
a coverlet fureable to the rest of the  
stufte; what stufte it was of, I can-  
not well deuise: before that we had  
made the beddes it was night, and  
he said: *Lazaro*, it is now late, and  
from hence to the market place  
where prouision of meate is sold, it  
is a long way, and besides that, ruffi-  
ans and cheeues doe meete men eve-  
ry night to spoyle them of their  
clokes, and caps in the dark, there-  
fore let us passe over this night as  
well as we may, to morrow God will  
prouide better for us. I am not pro-  
uided of meate, because I haue bene  
hitherto alone without a seruant,  
and I haue alwaies taken my meals  
in

*The Spaniards Life.*

in the Citie, but from henceforth we will keepe a new order. Sir, said I, take no care for me, I can passe over one night, and more if neede bee, without meate: And that will bee cause that thou shalt live longer, said he, for as wise men affirme, There is nothing that can make a man live longer, than to eat a little. If that be true, said I to my selfe, I shall never die, for I have alwayes beene constrained to keepe that rule, and I thinke I am fortun'd to observe it, as long as I live.

After all this, he went to bed, making his hose and his doublet his bolster, and causing me to lye at his feet, where I never slept winke, for the hard hurdle never left galling my naked bones, which by hunger and sorrow together, had not left on them, nor yet on all my body besides, an ounce of flesh: and as I chanced to eat nothing that day, my

Hunger is  
alwayes an  
enemy to  
sleep.

G                      braine

*The Spaniards Life.*

braine was so light, that I could never take rest. Wherefore ( God forgive mee ) I cursed my selfe and my fortune a thousand times, and that which was worse than all this, I never durst change sides for feare of waking him: Wherefore I desired death.

The next morning, when he rose, hee began to shake, and to make cleane his hose, his doubler, and his cloke; I was his Brush, so hee arrayd himselfe at leasure: I gave him then water for his hands, and when hee had occupied his Combe, hee taketh his Sword and kisseth the Pommell, and as he was putting it to his girdle, said unto mee: My Boy, if thou knewest what a blade this is, thou wouldest marvell; there is no gold that can buy it of mee, for of as many as *Antonio* made, hee could never give such temper to any, as hee gave this: then drawing it out of the Scabbard



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hard, hee tasted the edge with his fingers, saying; Seest thou it? I dare undertake to cut asunder with it, a whole fleece of wooll: I answered him softly to my selfe, saying, And I with my teeth, though they be not of such hard mettall a lase of bread weighing foure pound.

Then up went the Sword againe, hanging it at his girdle. And after all this, he marched out into the street, with a leasurely well measured pace, holding his body straight, making therewith, and with his head, a very good countenance, casting the end of his Cloake sometimes upon his shoulder, and otherwhiles under his arme, with his right hand alwayes on his side: and as hee was going forth, said, *Lazaro*, looke well about the house, while I doe goe and heare Service, make the bed, and then fetch some water here

*The Spaniards Life.*

At the River beneath, locke the doore  
lest any body rob us, and lay the Key  
underneath the threshold, that I may  
come in: he went up the street with  
such comely gesture & countenance:  
that hee that had not knowne him,  
would have judged him to have been  
neere kinsman unto the high Consta-  
ble of Spaine, or at the least his chiefe  
Chamberlaine.

I remained then alone, saying to  
my selfe, Blessed art thou, O God,  
which sendest the sicknesse, and gi-  
vest the remedy; who would thinke  
that I should think my Lord and Ma-  
ster, with such gesture and coun-  
tenance, but that hee had supped well  
yesternight, yea, and that he had slept  
in a good bed? And although it bee  
now early, who would thinke, but  
that he had broken his fast well?  
Great are thy secret doings, O Lord,  
and all people are ignorant of them!  
might not his good disposition, his  
reasonable

*The Spaniards Life.*

reasonable Cloake and Coat deceive  
any man? Who would distrust, that  
such a noble Gentle man had caren  
nothing all yesterday, but one peece  
of bread, which his servant *Lazaro*  
had kept in the Chest of his bosome,  
aday and a night, so that it could not  
bee (to say the truth) very cleane?  
Who would suspect, that he had  
dried this morning, his face and  
hands upon the Skirts of his Coat, for  
want of a Towell? I am certaine no  
man would judge it in him. O Lord,  
how many are there in the world,  
that are in such bravery, as this my  
Master is in, which doe suffer more  
for a little vaine-glories sake, than  
they would doe for the love of thee?  
I stood in the doore so long, remem-  
bring all those things, that my ma-  
ster passed thorow a long and nar-  
row street, then I went in and within  
a minute of an houre I visited the  
whole house above and beneath,  
G 3 without

*The Spaniards Life.*

without staying, or finding where to stay.

When I had made the unlucky bed, I tooke my pot and went straight to the River, and being ready to take up my water, I might perceive my Master in a Garden over the water, in great talke with two comely Women, which by their countenance seemed to be some of them, whereof in Toledo a number are risely found: and many of them take a use of going abroad early in the morning in the Summer-time, to take the ayre in those Gardens and to breake their fast without provision of their owne, under trees & shadowes, neare that pleasant River, trusting to finde out some, that would bestow charges upon them, especially such as they had accustomed thereto, such lusty young Souldiers of the City, as delighted in such pastime. He was (as I meane to tell you) betweene these

*The Spaniards Life.*

these women devising and counter-  
feiting all kinde of bravery, reciting  
more pleasant and sweet words, than  
ever Ovid wrote: But when they  
perceived, that their beauty had van-  
quished him cleane, and that he was  
left without shame, they demaunded  
of him their breake-fast, and hee  
therefore to have the accustomed  
payment.

Whereupon hee being as cold in  
the purse, as he was hot in stomacke,  
fell in such a trance, that hee lost all  
the colour in his face: his tongue  
not able to talke, was faine to alledge  
vaine excuses. But they, which in  
their science were well instructed,  
when they perceived his infirmitie,  
they gave him over for such an one  
as hee was indeed. All this while I  
was breaking my fast with stalkes of  
Coleworts, and when I had done,  
like a diligent Servant, not seene of  
my Master, returned home, meaning

*The Spaniards Life.*

to sweepe some part of the house, that had most need: but I could not finde wherewithall to doe the deed. Wherefore not knowing what to doe, I began to muse wherein I should occupy my selfe; and after study, I determined to tary untill noone, that my Master came, for peradventure he would bring something with him for us to eate: wherefore I tarried his comming, yet all for nothing, for it was now two a Clocke, and hee not yet come: but because hunger oppressed mee sore, I came out and locked the doore, laying the key where he had commanded, with a low and a sorrowfull voyce, my hands thrust into my bosome. I began to returne to my former practise, in so much that having God before mine eyes, and my tongue in his name, I fell to beg bread from doore to doore, and from house to house, where I thought best to speed, having

*The Spaniards Life.*

having learned this Trade in my sucking yeares, I meane with the blinde Master, I became such a Scholler, that although in that City there was small charity, nor the yeare was not abundant, yet notwithstanding I had put my affaires in such good order, that before the Clocke stricke foure, I had laid a pound of Bread in my belly, and twice as much in my bosome and sleeves. I returned then home-ward, and in my way went thorow the streets where they solde Tripes, where I demanded a Woman that was there her charity, shee gave mee a peece of Neats foot, and a few sodden Tripes.

When I came home, my courteous Master was within, having folded his Cloke and laid it up, walking up and downe the Court: and as soone as hee did see me, hee came towards mee, wherefore I feared hee would have beaten mee, because I had

*The Spaniards Life.*

had tarried so long, but it was not  
Gods will.

The first thing he demanded mee,  
was, where I had beene? I answered,  
Sir, I was here untill it was two  
a Clocke, and when I perceived that  
your Mastership came not, I went  
forth into the Citie, to recommend  
my selfe to good people, which have  
given mee thus much for Gods sake,  
and so shewed him the Tripes, which  
I kept in the skirt of my coat; where-  
at he made no angry countenance,  
but said, I have tarried for thee to  
dinner, and because I could not see  
thee come, I dined alone; as for thee,  
thou hast done like an honest Boy,  
for it is better to beg then to steale,  
as God helpe me I am of that opini-  
on: one thing onely I will desire thee  
to doe, that thou wilt not let them  
know that thou doest dwell with  
mee, nor that I am thy Master: For  
that toucheth mine honor, and I doe

not



*The Spaniards Life.*

not doubt, but that will be kept secret, for very few doe know mee in this Citie, I would to God I had never come to it.

Of that matter, Sir, take you no care, said I; for no man will aske me that question, I need not therefore make such account to any of them. But why doest thou not fill now to thy Victuals, poore soule, if it be Gods will, wee shall soone be out of this misery: thou shalt understand, that sithence I came in hither, I had never good hours, this house is surely built in an unhappy place, and certainly some houses are so unlucky, that looke whosoever doth dwell within them, hee shall be sure to have evill fortune.

But I promise thee, that as soone as the moneth is ended, I will not dwell here, (no though they would give it me Rent-free.) I fall downe then

*The Spaniards Life,*

then, and because hee should not think me a covetous glutton, I drew out my victuals, and there began to sup honestly, biting my Tripes with my bread handsomely, beholding dissemblingly my miserable Master, which had his eye alwayes upon my skirt, being at that time my onely Platter. God take such compassion on me, as I did then upon him, for I had oftentimes endured, yea, and daily felt that sorrow, which I knew tormented him: wherefore I imagined with my selfe, how I might well invite him; but because hee told mee that he had dined, I was afraid lest he would refuse the banquet.

Finally, I wished that the poore man would have eased his paine, by helpe of mine, and that hee would have eaten with me for company, as he had done the day before, especially, because that then I had better victuals, and more store, and more-  
over,

*The Spaniards Life.*

over, that then my hunger was lesse:  
it pleased God to accomplish my  
desire and his together, for when I  
had begun my meat, as hee walked,  
he came neare to mee, saying; *Laze-  
re*, I promise thee thou hast the best  
grace in eating, that ever I did see a-  
ny man have, for there is no man  
that seeth thee eat, but by seeing thee  
feed, shall have an appetite, although  
they be not an hungred.

Then would I say to my selfe, the  
hunger which thou sustaineest, cau-  
seth thee to think mine so beautifull:  
then I trusted I might helpe him, see-  
ing that hee had so helped himselfe,  
and had opened me the way thereto:  
wherefore I said unto him, Sir, the  
good Toolles make the Worke-man  
good, this bread hath good taste, and  
this Neats Foot is so well sod, and  
so cleanelly dressed, that it is able  
with the savour of it onely, to entice  
any man to eat of it.

What

*The Spaniards Life.*

At home  
in his owne  
Countrey,  
he did eat  
nothing  
else.

What, is it a Neats foot? Yea Sir:  
Now I promise thee it is the best  
monsell in the world, there is no  
Pheasant that I would like so well. I  
pray you, Sir, prove of it better, and  
see how you like it. I delivered then  
unto his nailes the Neats foot, with  
two or three peeces of the whitest  
bread that I had, whereupon hee sit-  
teth downe by me, and there began  
to eat like one that had great need,  
gnawing every one of those little  
bones, better then any Grey-hound  
could have done for life, saying,  
This is a singular good meat: and I  
to my selfe, said, The sauce that thou  
eatest withall is better.

He had  
fasted un-  
till then,

By God, I have eaten it with as  
good a stomacke, as if I had eaten  
nothing all this day before: then I  
with a low voyce said, God send  
mee to live long, as sure as that is  
true: and having ended his victuals,  
he commanded mee to reach him the  
pot

*The Spaniards Life.*

pot of water, which I gave him even as full as I had brought it from the River, and it was a signe that fithence hee wanted no water, that the residue of his dinner was but small, we dranke both, and went to bed, as the night before, at that time well satisfied.

And now for to avoyde long talke, wee continued after this sort eight or nine dayes: and the poore Gentleman went every day to brave it out in the street, to content himselfe with his accustomed stately pace, and alwayes I poore *Lazaro* was faine to be his Purvior: I oftentimes considered my disgraces, that escaping from evill Masters which I had, that used me evill, and seeking better, I happened to meete now with him, who not onely did not maintaine mee, but whom I was faine to maintaine, or else he to die: yet for all that, I loved him well, percei-

*The Spaniards Life.*

perceiving that he was able to do no more : yea, and I did pittie him, rather then hate him, for oftentimes with carrying him home wherewith to passe the day, I felt grieffe my selfe. One morning the poore Gentleman rose up in his shirt, and went up to the top of the house, to ease himselfe, and in the meane season to bee out of the suspicion that I was in, I unfolded his Doubler and his Hose, which were his Boulster, and there found a little Purse of Velvet, which had a hundred wrinkles in it, but the Divell a penny, nor yet any signe that there had beene any there long time before. Then did I say to my selfe, this man is poore, no man can give that which he hath not: but my covetous blinde man, and my wretched Priest, unto whom God hath given so much goods, the one got with smooth hand, the other gained with his loose tongue, and yet they famished

*The Spaniards Life.*

shed mee continually: there was good reason why I should hate such people; so is there cause, why this mans case should be lamented. God knoweth that when I met with any of his estate, being of like gravity, pace, and countenance, how I pittied them, thinking that they did endure that which I did see him daily suffer, whom I had rather serve for all his poverty, than any of the other, for the causes above named. I did like him well, but onely that me thought he was too presumptuous, where I often wished that seeing he so plainly perceived his owne poverty, hee would something have hid his fantastick pride. But as I thinke, it is a common usuall rule amongst such as he, which though they have not a crosse in the world, nor a Denier, the Cap must needs stand in his old place: but if God of his mercy doe not order the matter, all such are  
H like

*The Spaniards Life.*

like to dye of that vile disease.

As I continued in such estate, sustaining the life that I have told you, my evill fortune which never ceased to pursue mee, would not yet suffer mee to continue in that troublesome and shamefull kinde of life. For the matter happened thus: The Lords of the Councell made Proclamation with sound of Trumpet, because that that yeare there was scarcity of Corne, all poore people being strangers, should forsake the Citie, upon paine that hee which from thenceforth should bee taken, should be punished with stripes: and so executing the Law, within three dayes after the Proclamation, I saw a whole Procession of poore folke whipped thorow the foure principall streets, which sight did so feare mee, that never after I durst venture to beg. Then might you have seene a strange dyet we kept at home, and the



*The Spaniards Life.*

the great silence that was there, so that we were constrained to fast two or three dayes together, without eating any morsell, or speaking a word: and as for mee, the best shift I made, was amongst certaine poore women, which were Spinners and Cap-knitters, which saved my life, by reason of the acquaintance I had with them, being our neere neighbours: For of that meate they had, I should have a little, wherewith I did not so lament mine owne case, as I did my poore Masters, which in eight dayes did not eate one morsell, at the least, we were so long at home without meate: but indeed I know not whither he went, nor what hee did eate abroad, yet notwithstanding, for all this, you should see him come sometimes up the street with a body as large as any Greyhounds of good race, and for to maintaine his poore honour, hee was

H 2                      wont

*The Spaniards Life.*

Smal need  
to pick his  
teeth for a-  
ny meat  
he had  
care.

wont to take a straw in his hand, whereof also there was want in our house, and standing without the dore, would therewith picke those which had little need of picking, for any thing that had stricke in them with eating. Lamenting still the unlucki esse of that house, he would say, it grieveth me, to see how all our sorrow commeth of this house, thou seeest how uncomfortable and darke it is, and as long as wee dwell heere, wee are like to be thus tormented, therefore I would to God the moneth were ended that wee might depart out of it.

Six pence  
English.

And as wee continued in this afflicted and famishing persecution, one day a ryall entered into the power of my Master, I know not by what good lucke and adventure, wherewith hee came home so blowing, as if hee had brought with him the whole treasure of Venice, and so with

*The Spaniards Life.*

with a merry and lively countenance hee giveth it to mee, saying, take here *Lazaro*, now God beginneth to open his hand, and to smile upon us, goe quickly to the Market-place, and buy bread, wine and flesh, that we may breake the Divels envious eye: and furthermore, because thou shalt have good cause to rejoyce, thou shalt understand, that I have hired another house, therefore the moneth once ended, wee will no longer abide in this miserable unlucky house, cursed be it, and he that laide the first Tile on it, for in evill time did I come in. By our Lord all the time that I have beene heere, I never dranke drop of Wine, nor a morsell of flesh entred into my belly, nor yet have I had any rest in it, such is the sorrow and misery that belongeth to it; goe thy wayes and make speede, and let us dine this day like Earles. Then I tooke my ryall

Belike  
some game  
sters had  
given it  
him and  
it was full  
time.

*The Spaniards Life.*

and my pot, and with all haste, I began to goe up the street, towards the Market place, with joy and mirth. But what profiteth all this, now that I am borne under such a Planet that I can never enjoy any pleasure long, without hindrance, (it appeareth so now) for as I went on my way, making my account how I should bestow my money upon that which should bee most profitable and best, giving infinite thankes to God (that he had given my Master that money) upon a sudden I might see right before me a dead Coarse come down the street, accompanied with many Priests, and other people: I leaned to the wall to give them place, and the Coarse went by; I might see a woman which belike was the dead mans wife, following the Biere, all in mourning weeds, accompanied with other women, and she weeping and lamenting, said; O my husband

*The Spaniards Life.*

husband and my Lord, alas, whither do they carry you? to the uncomfortable and sad house, to the darke and sorrowfull house, to the house where they never eate nor drinke? When I had heard her speake these words, me thought heaven and earth had met, and I said, O unfortunate wretch that I am, they carry this dead Course to our house: wherefore I forsooke my way, and brake in betweene the people, and running downe the street as fast as ever I could, I got into the house, & when I had entred therein, I locked the doore with all haste, calling out to my Master for helpe, and embracing him, I desired his aide to keepe them out: whereof he was somewhat amazed, thinking it had beene some other matter, said, what is the matter Boy? what ayleth thee to cry out so? why doest thou locke the dore with such fury? O sir (then

*The Spaniards Life.*

I answered, ) I pray you helpe mee,  
for they bring us in here a dead  
coarse. How to said hee ? I met the  
coarse above in the street, and his  
wife followed him, saying, O my  
husband and my Lord, whither doe  
they carry you ? to the uncomforta-  
ble and sad house, to the darke and  
sorrowfull house, to the house where  
they never eat nor drinke ? There-  
fore without doubt, sir, they doe  
bring him in heere to you. Now  
truely when my Master heard this,  
although he had no great cause to be  
joyfull, he laughed so earnestly, that  
hee stood a good while and could  
not speake. In this meane season, I  
had barred the doore, and for more  
surety, had laid my shoulders fast  
against it. The people passed by with  
their coarse, and yet still I was a-  
fraid, and durst not remove, least  
they should bring him in : and when  
my Master had satisfied himselfe  
with

*The Spaniards Life.*

with laughing, though not with meate, hee said unto me, truly *Lazarus*, thou hast said the truth, and according to the widowes crying words, thou hadst good reason to suspect that which thou hast said: but now, seeing that God hath dealt better with us then so, and that they are past us, open the dore, and goe to buy us some meate. Sir, then said I, let them first be all past. In the end, my Master came and opened the doore against my will, and it was as much as he could doe, I held it so hard, being in great feare. Then hee caused me to returne to my voyage, and although we dined well that day, notwithstanding, I found no taste at all in my meate, nor within three dayes after, I never recovered my owne colour, and as often as the remembrance of these vaine things came to my Masters minde, hee was never able to stay himselfe from laughing

*The Spaniards Life.*

laughing. After such sort I continued a time with this my third poore Master, which was a Squire, seeking continually occasion to know his estate, & for what cause hee had come to dwell in this Citie, for I perceivd that hee was a stranger, long before, by reason that hee had so little acquaintance with those of the Citie. Finally, my wish was accomplished, and I understood that which I coveted to know: for upon a day, after that hee had dined reasonably well, he being at that time indifferently well satisfied, declared unto me his affaires, in so much that hee certified mee, that hee was borne in *Castilia* the old, and how that hee had forsaken his Countrey for nothing in the world, but because hee would not abase himselfe so much as put off his Cap to a Gentleman his neighbour: and having heard all his discourse, I said unto him, sir,  
if



*The Spaniards Life.*

if he were such a one as you say, and besides that, if hee were richer than you, it had beene but your duety to put off your Cap first to him, for I beleeeve hee would have done the like to you; indeed hee is a Gentleman, and richer than I, and hee would alwayes put off his Cap to the uttermost, when I did put off mine, but seeing that oftentimes mine was first off, reason would have required, that his should once have beene first, and so have wonne of me by quicke hand, the courtesie. As for me, said I, I would never have had regard to that. Thou art a childe, said hee, and therefore thou knowest not what doth belong to honour, which at this day is the onely refuge of such as bee honest: therefore thou shalt understand, that I am as thou seest a poore Esquire, and I make a vow to God, that if I should meet in the midst of the street an Earle, that  
would

*The Spaniards Life.*

would not put his cap altogether off, as well as I doe mine, the next time I see him come, I will enter in- to some house, as if I had some bu- sineffe there, or else crosse over into an other streete, if there bee any be- tweene mee and him, so that I shall not neede to put off my cap to him, for a Gentleman is bound to none but to God and the Prince, and ther- fore it is reason that an honest man shall be curious to esteeme his owne person. I doe remember that upon a day, I dishonoured, and had al- most beaten a Craftf-man where I was borne, because that whensoever he met me, he would say, *Mantenga dios à v.m.* which is to say, Sir, God maintaine your worship: I tooke him once with the deede, and said, How now sir Clowne, what meane you by this, who hath so instructed you, doth it become you to say un- to me, God maintaine you, even as

I

*The Spaniards Life.*

I were one of the common sort? From thenceforth he would put off his Cap to me a farre off, and salute mee as hee ought. Why sir, said I, was not that kinde of salutation good enough for any man, is it not sufficient, for a man to say, God maintaine your Mastership? hee answered angerly, thou must know in an evill houre, that that kinde of salutation is used to a meane man, but no man ought to salute one of my estate after such a sort, but alwayes hee ought to say, *Beso las manos de v. m.* which is as much to say, as I kisse your worships hands, or at the least *Beso Señor las manos*, I doe kisse your hands, if so bee that he that saluteth me be a Knight or a Gentleman: so from that day forward I could never abide to heare talke of maintenance, nor suffer any man unlesse it were the King, to say unto me, sir God maintaine you.

Alas

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Alas wretch that I am ( said I to my selfe ) that is the cause, that hee hath so little care to maintaine thee, for thou canst abide no man to wish it thee.

Furthermore he said, I am not so poore, but that I have in my countrey, ground, where foundation of houses is well and surely laid, which if they were built up as they ought, sumptuous and great, and by exchange placed in *Valladolid*, fixteene miles on this side the place where I was borne, they would be worth no lesse then a thousand Maravedis: and I have a Dove-house, which if it were built up, as it is now false, it would yeeld mee yearly above two hundred Pigeons: besides other things which I will not now speake of, all which things I forsooke, for matters which touched mine honor, and came to this Citie, meaning to serve one of the chiefe Nobles, but  
it

Two and  
thirty Ma-  
ravedis, is  
vi. pence  
English.

*The Spaniards Life.*

it happened otherwise with mee: I finde indeede many Doctors and Prebends belonging to the Church, but they keepe such modest orders, that all the world is not able to bring them out of their pace: many Gentlemen, which are of the basest sort, covet to have mee; but to serve such men is great travell, for from a man, you must become a Cloke-bag, or else they will straight bid you farewell, and most commonly, their wages is paid with long termes, sometime your meat and drinke onely, for your painefull service.

And when they mean to reforme their conscience, and to consider the servants paine, there shall be delivered out of the Ward-robe, some cut-doubler, or some thred-bare Cloke, or Coat: But when a man serveth a Noble-man of the Order, hee shall better passe over his misery: but  
perad-

*The Spaniards Life.*

peradventure, there is not in mee ability to serve and to content such men.

By God, if I had met with any one of them, I thinke certainly, I should quickly have beene chiefe of his Councell, for I would have done him a thousand kinde of services. I could have dissembled as well as any other, yea, and pleased him a thousand fold, that it would have beene marvellous; I would have smiled merrily at his doings, although they had not beene the best in the world: I would never have recited that which should have displeased him, no although it had beene much for his profit, most diligent about his person, in word and deed, never vexing my selfe about the well doing of things, that should never come to his sight, but sometimes have chid such as served, where hee might heare me, that I might seeme

to

*The Spaniards Life.*

to be carefull, about that which  
touched him: and whensoever he  
should happen to fall out with any  
of his men, then would I put forth  
two or three smooth words, to set  
him forward, which should seeme  
to be in the favour of the offender,  
affirming alwayes that which I  
thought hee liked of: and on the  
contrary side, a malicious mocker of  
the ignorant and rude sort. Further-  
more, I would alwayes demand and  
procure, how to know the lives of  
strangers, to account them unto  
him, with other such trickes of like  
quality, which at this day are used  
in great Palaces and Courts, and  
which please the chiefe dwellers  
herein, which cannot abide to see in  
their houses vertuous men, but doe  
abhor, and esteeme them as naught,  
despising and calling them fooles,  
and ignorant in the trafficque of  
waighty affaires, so that the Lord  
I cannot

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cannot safely trust to their simple doings in waighy matters : therefore now adayes, those that are sub-  
till and crafty, get into favour, and use such means as I would have used, if fortune would have suffered mee to have found out such a noble Lord.

After this sort, my master lamented his evill fortune, making relation unto mee, what a valiant person hee was. And being in such talke, there commeth in to us, a man, and an old woman, the man demanded the rent of the house, and the woman the hire of the bed, and there made straightwayes accounts, so that hee for two moneths, was indebted more than hee was able to pay in a whole yeere. I thinke his debts came to twelve, or thirteene ryals of plate : hee gave them gentle answers, that hee would goe to the marketplace, to change a double peece of gold,



*The Spaniards Life,*

gold, desiring them to come againe in the evening, but his departure was without returne.

When evening came, they returned, but it was too late, wherefore I told them, that hee was not yet come : the night being come, and hee not, I was afraid to lie alone in the house, therefore I went to my neighbours, and there declared unto them the whole matter, and there lay all night.

The next day in the morning, the Creditors came and enquired for my Master (but at the other doore I must tell you,) unto whom the women answered : There is his servant, with the key of the doore : They demanded mee for him, I answered, That I knew not where he was, for hee was not come home, since hee went abroad to change his gold, and that therefore I thought that he was gone both from them and mee, with the  
I 2 exchange.

*The Spaniards Life.*

exchange. When they heard mee say so, they goe straight and seeke a Sergeant and Scrivener, and as soone as they had brought them thicher, without delay they tooke the Key, and opened the doore in the presence of witneses, and entred in to sequester on my Masters goods, that the debt might bee paid them: But when they had sought the house all over, they found it as empty as I have told you; wherefore they demanded of me, whither my Masters goods were conveyed, his Chests, his Tapestry, and his household-stuffe. I answered, saying, I know nothing that hee hath, Sir. Without doubt they have beene taken away this night, say they, and carryed to some other place, therefore master Sergeant, take hold on this Boy, for he knoweth all.

Then the Officer approacheth unto mee, and taking fast hold on the collar

*The Spaniards Life.*

coller of my Coat, said; Thou art prisoner, unlesse thou tell where thy Master his goods are become: but as never no man had taken hold on me in that place before, saving onely my blinde Master, who never laid hand on mee so rudely, but gently, that I might lead him that could not see, I was afraid, and crying mercy, I promised to tell all that they demanded. Goe to then, say they, say on Gods name what thou knowest, and be not afraid: the Scrivener sitteth downe in hast to write the inventory, demanding what goods hee had.

I then began to declare what I knew, saying; Sir, the goods that he hath or at least, that which he told me he had, was a peece of ground, where foundation of houses is laid, and moreover a Dovehouse which is false. Well said (say they) my Boy, though that hee

I 3      little

*The Spaniards Life.*

little worth, it is sufficient to pay us.  
In what place of the City standeth  
it ? (say they.) I answered, Mary it  
standeth a good way hence in his  
owne Countrey. The matter is  
then in a faire case (say they) but  
where is his Countrey ? He told mee,  
that he was borne in *Castilia* the old.  
The Sergeant and the Scrivener  
laughing apace, said, This confession  
is sufficient for you to recover the  
debt (though it were greater.) The  
neighbours that were there present,  
said, This child is an innocent, and  
hee hath not dwelt long with the  
Squire, therefore hee knoweth no  
more of him than you doe ; he hath  
oftentimes come to us, and we have  
giuen him such meat as we had, for  
Gods sake, and at nights gone in, to  
ly with his master : when they per-  
ceived mine innocency, they did set  
me at liberty. The Sergeant and the  
Scrivener did demand of the man  
and

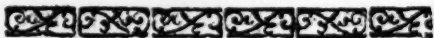
*The Spaniards Life.*

and the woman their fee, whereupon there rose great contention, and they alleged that they were not bound to pay, seeing that there was no execution made, especially, seeing there was not wherewithall. The Officers alleged, for that comming thither, they had left undone matters of much greater importance.

Finally, after many angry words, a poore Carrier was loden with the old mattresse, which was the womans, scant halfe a lode to the Bearer. Then went they all five out together chiding, what became of them after, I know not; I beleeeve the poore mattresse paid for all. And thus, as I tell you, I lost my third master, when as I fully perceived evill fortune wrought altogether against mee, insomuch, that my affaires went so backward, that whereas Masters are wont to bee forsaken of their servants, it was not so with

*The Spaniards Life.*

mee, but my Master was faine to forsake mee, yea, and runne away in haste.



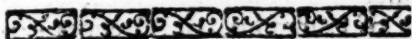
*How Lazaro placeth himselfe to dwell with a Fryer of the Abbey of Grace.*



Was then constrained to seeke the fourth Master, which was a Fryer of the Abbey of Grace, unto whom the poore women, which I have told you of, preferred me. They called him couzen. This man was an enemy to the Quire, not liking well of his Meales in the Covent, a man lost for going abroad, desirous to see worldly affaires and visitations, wherefore I thinke, that he alone did  
teare

*The Spaniards Life.*

reare moe shooes, than all the rest of  
of his brethren : It was he that gave  
me the first shooes that ever I wore in  
all my life, which lasted me but eight  
dayes ; for he never left trotting a-  
broad : wherefore for this, and for  
other small matters , which at this  
time I will not speake of, I was faine  
to forsake him.



How Lazaro placeth  
himselſe with a Pardoner, and  
what things happened to  
him in his service.



Met by evill chance with  
the fifth Master, which  
was an Vtterer of Par-  
dons, the deceitfullest  
Merchant, and the most shamelesſe  
that

*The Spaniards Life.*

that ever I did see, or any man else :  
For to dispatch away his pardons,  
he had fine means and traffique, and  
daily imagined therefore most subtile  
inventions.

As soone as hee arived to such  
townes, where hee should utter his  
pardons, he would first present some  
gift of small value or substance to  
the Priests and Curates of that place ;  
sometimes a Cabadge-lettice, a cou-  
ple of Lemmons, or Orenge ; o-  
therwhiles an Apricock, or else a  
couple of Peaches, or at least, to e-  
very one a faire Peare : and by that  
meanes hee went about to make  
them his friends, that they might fa-  
vour his affaires, and cause their Pa-  
rishioners to receive the pardons :  
Yea, and that they should thanke  
him, he would alwayes be informed  
before he came, which were learned,  
and which not. When hee came to  
those, which hee understood were  
learned,



*The Spaniards Life.*

learned, he would be sure never to speake word of Latin, for feare of stumbling : but used in such places, a gentle kinde of *Castilian Spanish*, his tongue alwayes at liberty : and contrariwise, whensoever hee was informed of the reverend *Domines*, (I meane such as are made Priests, more for mōney, than for learning and good behaviour) to heare him speake amongst such men, you would say it were *S. Thomas* : for he would then, two houres together talk Latin, at least which seemed to bee, though it was not.

When that they received not his pardons friendly, he sought meanes to make them to take them perforce : So that oftentimes, he therefore molested the Parishioners, otherwiles causing them to receive them by subrill inventions. And now, seeing it were too long to account all such parts as I did see him use,

*The Spaniards Life.*

use, I will recite one, whereby hee shewed right well, how sufficient hee was. He had preached two or three dayes in a Village, within the Diocesse of the Arch-Bishop of *Toledo*, without omitting any part of his accustomed diligence, and the people had not taken one pardon, nor no man (as farre as I could perceiue) was minded to receive any: wherefore he was in great rage.

Pardoners  
have al-  
waies with  
them a  
Sergeant,  
to take up  
gages in  
such hou-  
ses, as re-  
fuse to pay  
for their  
pardon at  
the time  
appointed.

And as he imagined what hee had best to doe, determined to invite and bid all the people to come thither the next day, so to dispatch his pardons, and that night after Supper, he and his Sergeant went to play for their break-fast, and as they played, they fell at such debate, that the one gave evill words to the other: Infomuch, that at the last he said to his Sergeant, That he was a Theefe; and the Sergeant answered, saying, That he was a Falsifier: wherefore the  
Com-

*The Spaniards Life.*

Commiffary my Master laid hand upon a short Pike that stood behinde the doore, where they played; and the Sergeant on the other fide, put hand to his fword, which hung by his fide: fo that with the great noyse that wee made, our Hofte and our neighbours came in, and went betweene them: then they being fore angry, fought all meanes to come together, that the one might kill the other: But the houfe was fo full of people, that they could by no meanes come nigh to one another, wherefore they never left giving one another injurious words, infomuch, that the Sergeant faid to my Master, that hee was a Falfifier, and that the pardons which he preached of daily, were moft falfe.

To be briefe, when the people perceived, that they could by no meanes pacifie them, they determined to carry the Sergeant away to another

*The Spaniards Life.*

another lodging, and my master remained still there in great rage.

Whereupon our Hoast, with his neighbours, desired him heartily that hee would forget his anger, and goe to bed : and so then wee went all to sleepe. As soone as day appeared in the morning, my Master went to the Church, and caused them there to ring to Masse, and to Sermon, that hee might dispatch his Pardons : then the people assembled together, murmuring amongst themselves at the Pardons, saying, That they were false and nothing worth, seeing that the Sergeant himselfe had affirmed the same : So that before that time, they having small minde to receive any, they then utterly abhorred them.

Master Commissarie mounteth up into the Pulpit, and beginneth his Sermon, encouraging the people not to forsake such great goodnesse  
and

*The Spaniards Life.*

and indulgence, as the holy pardon contained : and being in the midst of his Sermon, the Sergeant commeth in at the Church doore, and when that hee had ended his prayers, hee rose up suddenly, and with a loud voyce discreetly said, Yee honest and godly people, give eare that I may tell you a word or two, and then heare whom ye will. I am come hither in the company of this crow-keeper which now preacheth, who hath deceived mee, promising, that if I would helpe him in his affaires, I should have halfe the gaines. But now perceiving the damage that my conscience should receive, and besides that, the losse of your goods, I doe earnestly repent that which I have done, and I will tell you plainly, that the pardons which hee hath brought, are false : therefore yee ought not to beleeve him, nor yet take any one of them. As for mee,

I

*The Spaniards Life.*

All Sergeants in Spaine do beare a white rod in their hands, higher than themselves by halfe a foot, as big as a mans finger.

They were no Lords, every man is of honour there.

I will neither bee partaker with him, one way or other, therefore from this time forward, I doe forsake the rod of them, which I now cast to the ground: for if hereafter hee bee punished for his falshood, you may bee witnesse with mee that I am no doer with him herein, nor yet helpe him, but doe rather bewray unto you his craft and falsehood: and when hee had said all, certaine men of honour which were there, would needs have cast him out of the Church, to avoyde slander: but my Master did forbid them so to doe, commanding them all upon paine of excommunication, to suffer him to say all that ever he could, and he himselfe kept Silence whiles that the Sergeant declared all that which I have rehearsed: and as soone as hee held his tongue, my Master demaunding him whether hee would say any more: the Sergeant answered, there may be much

*The Spaniards Life.*

much more said of thee, and of thy  
falshood, but at this time this is suffi-  
cient.

Then my master Commissarie  
falling downe upon his knees in the  
pulpit, holding up his hands, his eyes  
looking up to heaven, said these  
words : O Lord God, from whom  
nothing is hid, unto whom all things  
are manifest, and unto whom no-  
thing is impossible, who can doe all  
things, thou knowest the truth, and  
how unjustly I am accused and slan-  
dered : as for mee (O Lord) I for-  
give him, that thou maist forgive  
me. Have no regard to him that  
knoweth not what hee doeth nor  
sayeth : notwithstanding, O Lord,  
I doe beseech thee, and through  
justice I demand of thee, that thou  
wilt not dissemble this injurie which  
is done unto thee. Peradventure,  
some that are here present, were  
minded to take this divine pardon,

K

which

*The Spaniards Life.*

which now will not, giving place  
and credit to the wicked mans  
words: and because this matter is  
so hurtfull to Christian neighbours,  
I beseech thee once againe good  
Lord, that thou wilt not dissemble  
it, but immediatly, that it may please  
thee to shew here a miracle, and  
that it may be thus: if it be true that  
this man saith, that is, that the Par-  
dons which I have here are false,  
that this Pulpit may then sinke with  
mee, as farre as the depth of seaven  
men under the ground, that neither  
it nor I may never bee seene againe.  
And on the other side, if that be true  
which I say, that hee being perswa-  
ded by the devill, hath said these  
words falsely and untruly, onely to  
deprive the people of such good-  
nesse, that then it may also please  
thee to punish him, that his malici-  
ous perversitie may bee knowne to  
all men.

My



*The Spaniards Life.*

My devout master had scant ended his prayers, but that the poore Sergeant fell in a trance, giving himselfe, such a blow against the ground, that all the Church sounded of it, stretching out his body with great abundance of snot at his mouth, making strange visages, and striking the ground both with hand and foote, tumbling up and downe from one side to another : In so much that the noyse which the people made, was so great, that one could not heare another. Some were amazed and sore afraid, saying, God bee his helpe ; and other said, Hee hath that which hee hath deserved, seeing that he durst affirme such falshood.

Finally some of those that were there, which to my judgement were not without great feare, came neere to hold fast his hands, wherewith hee strooke all such as came neere him. Others held him fast by the feet, for

K 2

there

*The Spaniards Life.*

there was never false moyle in the world that ever kicked so fast : and so they held him a good while. There were above xv. men upon him, and he gave them all their hands full : so that if they had forgotten their businesse, hee would have given some of them overthwart the teeth. All this while my master was in the pulpit upon his knees, holding his hands together still, his eyes bent towards heaven, transported into such divine essence, that all the noyse and rumour which was in the Church, was not sufficient to bring him out of his divine contemplation. Certaine honest men that were there, came unto him, and awaked him by force of crying, desiring that it might please him to succour the poore man that was a dying, and that hee should not regard that which had passed, nor yet his evill words, seeing that now hee had received

*The Spaniards Life,*

ceived punishment therefore, but that if hee could helpe him any way how to escape that perill and danger that hee was in, that hee would so do for Gods sake: and as for them, they plainly perceived that hee was in the fault, and so likewise that they knew his truth and goodnesse, seeing that at his petition, the Lord straightwayes for revengement, sent him punishment.

Then my master the commissary, like one that had awaked out of a gracious sleepe, beholdeth them, and also the patient, with all those that were about him, and said: Ye honest men, yee ought not to pray for one, on whom God hath so manifestly shewed his power; but seeing that hee hath commanded that wee shall not render evill for evill, but rather that wee shall pardon all injuries, to be able to make supplication unto him, that wee may fulfill that which

*The Spaniards Life.*

hee commanded us. And now that his majestie (being by him offended) may forgive him, so to shew miracles of true faith, let us goe altogether with humble heart, and pray to him. Wherefore hee came downe out of the Pulpit, commanding such as were there present, most devoutly to pray to our Lord, that it might please him, through his grace, to pardon the sinner, and to restore him to his health and bodily senses againe; And moreover, if his divine majestie had permitted any evill spirit to enter into him for his offences, that it might please him likewise, to drive it out againe. Incontinently they fell all upon their knees, before the Altar, and with the Priests they began to sing with lowe voyce, the Letany, and the Commisary my master, having song over him, came with the crosse and holy water, holding up his hands, and his eyes bent towards heaven,

*The Spaniards Life.*

heaven, that one might see nothing of them but a little while, began his prayer no lesse devout than long, wherewith hee made those that were there present to weepe, as they were wont to doe at the Sermons of the passion; and he as a devout preacher, desired almighty God (seeing that he desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that hee shall repent and live) to pardon, forgive and restore to life, that poore sinner which was led by the devill, overcome with death and sinne, that he might repent and confesse his finnes: when he had so done, he sent for one of the Pardons, and laid it upon his head, whereupon immediatly the poore Sergeant began to amend, and by little and little, to returne to himselfe. And as soone as hee had recovered his senses, he kneeleth downe at master Commissaries feet, and there demanded pardon, confessing

K 4

how

*The Spaniards Life.*

how that hee had said and done, all those things, by the mouth and instruction of the devill, as well to give him griefe, and to be revenged of him, as also because the devill was sorry to see the goodnesse which people received by taking the holy pardons. My master did then forgive him, and friendship was made betwene them.

Then was there such great haste to take pardons, that almost no creature living in that towne, but tooke one, the husband, and the wife, sons and daughters, men-servants and maid-servants, there was none but would have one.

This newes was spread abroad through all the towns there about, so that wee then being come thither, it was not needfull to preach, nor yet to goe to the Church to dispatch the Pardons : for the people came so fast to our lodging for them, as if they

*The Spaniards Life.*

they had beene peares that had beene  
given them for nothing : in so much  
that my master dispatched and ut-  
tered away ten or twelve thousand  
Pardons in ten or twelve little villa-  
ges thereabouts, without preaching  
one sermon. And as for my part, I  
will confesse my ignorance, for  
when this their invention was tried,  
I was in a great marvell to see such a  
strange case, and I thought the mat-  
ter had beene so indeed, as many o-  
ther did : yet notwithstanding, when  
I perceived once the Jestings and  
scoffing that my master and the Ser-  
geant would make at the matter by  
the way, I understood plainly, that  
all that counterfeite shew was in-  
vented by my masters subtil indus-  
trious art. And although I was of  
tender yeares, yet I tooke great plea-  
sure to consider their doings, and  
would say to my selfe : How many  
are there such as these that deceive  
the

*The Spaniards Life*

the simple people. To conclude, I continued with this first master neere foure moneths, during which time I suffered much sorrow.

*How Lazaro dwelleth with a Chaplaine, and what happened to him in his service;*



Afterward I entred into service of a painter of drums, unto whom I tempered colours, with whom I suffered a thousand evils; and as I was then of good bignesse, entring one day into the great Church, one of the Chaplaines received me for his owne, and gave mee in government an Asse, with foure great tankerds, and a whip, to sell water up and downe the



*The Spaniards Life.*

the Citie, and this was the first staire  
I climbed up to come to attaine un-  
to a good life : for my mouth had  
then the measure. I delivered up  
daily to my master in gaine thirty  
*Marevedis*, and on every Saturday I  
laboured for my selfe, and all the  
week also, whatsoever I could earne  
over thirtie *Marevedis* a day, was  
mine owne. This office was so good,  
that at foure yeares end I had spared  
with my wages and my gaines, so  
much as bought mee apparrell ho-  
nestly, with old stufte, whereof I  
bought an old black fustian doublet,  
and a coate thred-bare with gathe-  
red sleeves and whole before, and  
a cloke that had beene of selzado,  
and a sword of the old making, one  
of the first of *Cuellar*. And percei-  
ving my selfe then in apparell like an  
honest man, I desired my master to  
take his Assie againe, and that I  
would no more follow that office.

They doe  
carry wa-  
ter up and  
downe the  
citiesto sell  
upon As-  
ses, with  
four and  
sometimes  
six tan-  
kards; for  
they have  
no water  
but from  
the river.

How

*The Spaniards Life.*

*How Lazaro dwelleth with a  
Sergeant, and what happened  
to him in his service.*



A man  
may scape  
in Spaine  
the hands  
of the offi-  
cers of Ju-  
stice if they  
can flee in  
to some  
church, so  
it be not  
sheft, trea-  
sure or re-  
ligion.

After that I had taken  
my leave of the  
chaplain, I did place  
my selfe with a Ser-  
geant, to be a mem-  
ber of Iustice : but I  
dwelled few dayes with him, for in  
short time I perceived that it was a  
dangerous office, especially when  
that certaine transgressours, which  
retired into a church, chased my  
master and mee marvellously with  
stones and staves : and at that pre-  
sent time my master (whom I tarried  
for) was evill handled, but they  
could never overtake mee : yet for  
all that, I did forswear the office.  
And as I imagined what kinde of  
life I had best lead that I might  
provide

*The Spaniards Life.*

provide something against mine old age, God by his grace lightened my minde to finde out the profitable way : So that through the favour which I had of my friends and masters, all the sorrowes, which before that time I had susteined, were recompenced with an office royall, which I obtained : the which I pretended, because that at this day there is no account but of them that have where withall.

So that at this present, I live in mine office, and exercise it to Gods service and yours. Sir, it is so that I have the charge to crie the wines that are sold in this Citie, and to make inquirance, with open cry, for things that have been lost, and when any suffer persecution by justice, I doe accompany them, declaring with loud voyce their offence. I am (in plaine language) a common cryer. Sir, matters have so well gone for-

The CA-  
er, in  
Spaine do  
sel all kind  
of stufte,  
and when  
any is  
whipt  
thorow  
the Citie,  
goeth be-  
fore him  
declaring  
with loud  
voyce  
what hee  
hath done.

*The Spaniards Life.*

forward with mee, and I have used my selfe so well, that in manner all things belonging to the office, passe through my hands. In so much, that looke whosoever within this citie doth broach wine, or sell any thing, and that *Lezarillo de Tormes* bee not present, they make account never to get gaine.

In this meane time, master Archdeacon of saint *Salvador*, your friend and servant, at commandement, having knowledge of my person and abilitie, especially since I had cryed his wine, went about to marry mee with his maide. And after that I had considered, that with having to doe with such a man as master Archdeacon was, I could not receive but honestie and goodnesse, I determined to doe it, so that I tooke her to wife, whereof hitherto I doe not repent: for besides that she is honest, and a diligent wench, I finde great favour  
and

*The Spaniards Life.*

and helpe at master Archdeacons hand, for every yeare from one time to an other, he giveth her as good as a load of wheat, and against Christmas or Easter, some good morcell of flesh, a couple or two of loaves, and such old hoke as hee leaveth : and he caused us to hire a little house neere his dwelling : on every Sunday and holyday wee dined (most commonly) in his owne house. But evill tongues which never cease, would not suffer us to live in peace, they would say this and that, and that they did see my wife goe and make his bed, and dresse his meat. But God helpe them better than they say truth. For besides that, she is a woman that doth not delight in such game, master Archdeacon hath promised mee that which I trust hee will fulfill.

For upon a time in her presence he said at large unto me, *Lazaro de Tormes*

*The Spaniards Life.*

*Tormes*, hee that will have regard to  
evill tongues, shall never get profit.  
I say thus much unto thee, I can ne-  
ver marvell, though some men mur-  
mure to see thy wife come in and out  
of my house, which doing, I pro-  
mise thee, shall not otherwise re-  
dound but to thy great honesty and  
hers. Therefore let people have their  
words, have thou onely regard to  
that which shall bee for thy profit.  
I answered him, saying, Sir, I have  
determined to joyne my selfe with  
those that are good, but truth it is,  
that certaine of my friends have  
warned me of this, yea, and more-  
over they have twice or thrice certi-  
fied mee with other, that before shee  
was married to me shee had two or  
three children, be it spoken under  
your master-ships correction, seeing  
that shee is present. My wife began  
then to give such oathes, that I  
thought the house would have sunk  
with

*The Spaniards Life.*

with us all, and then began to weep;  
cursing the time that ever she married  
mee, in so much that I wished my  
selfe dead, when that I let scape that  
word out of my mouth. But I on  
the one side and my master on ano-  
ther, said so much, that she left wee-  
ping: and I did sweare unto her, that  
as long as I lived, I would never a-  
gaine use the like talke: and how that  
I reioyced and was well content,  
that shee should come in and out  
both day and night, seeing that her  
honesty and faithfulnessse was so wel  
knowne. So then we remained all  
three with one accord untill this  
day, and never so man heard us si-  
thence reason of that matter. And  
from that time forward, whensoever  
I could happen to heare any man  
talke of this, I would straight breake  
off his matter, and say unto him,  
Looke if thou be my friend, speake  
nothing that shall grieue mee, for I

L

do

*The Spaniards Life.*

doe not take him for my friend that caused me to sorrow, especially that goeth about to sowe discord betweene me and my wife, whom I loue better than any thing in this world, considering how that by her meanes, God hath done more for me than I haue deserued: and I dare sweare by the holy sacrament, that she is as honest a woman as any that dwelleth within the foure gates of *Toledo*: and he that saith the contrarie, I will bestow my life upon him. So from thence forward, they never durst moue any such matter unto me, and I had peace alwaies in my house, This was the same yeare that our victorious Emperour entered into his noble citie of *Toledo*, where his court was kept with great feastes and triumphs, as your mastership hath heard: finally it was then that I was in my prosperitie, and in my chiefeft time of good aduenture.

*Lazaro*



*Lazaro declareth the friend-  
ship that certaine High  
Dutchmen shewed him, and  
what happened betweene  
them.*

**B**Eing now in the top  
of my prosperity, ha-  
ving fortune my friend,  
I never went without a  
bottle of the best wine in  
the City; of the very same I carried a-  
bout mee (being a common Cryer)  
to give a tast to as many as were  
willing to buy: by vertue of which  
wine, I purchased so many Gentle-  
men my friends, as well Inhabitants  
there, as strangers, that wheresoever  
I came, the doore should straight be  
opened for mee. And I was so fa-

L 2      uoured

*The Spaniards Life.*

noured every where, that if I had chanced to haue slaine a man, or to commit some haynous offence, all the world would straight wayes haue beene on my side, being assured that those Gentle-men, being the Kings Guard, would sufficiently both sue-cour and help me.

Therefore, whensoever wee met, I never suffered them to depart dry-mouthed away, but did carry them with me to the best wine I had broched in the City, where oftentimes we went in upon our owne feet, and came out, either without any, or at the least with strange feet.

And that which I liked best of all, was, that all the time I kept them company, the Deuill a blanke *Lazaro de Tormes* did pay, nor that they would consent he should pay. For, whensoever I did put my hand to my purse (for manners sake only) they would take it in evill part, and beholding

*The Spaniards Life.*

beholding me angerly, would say, *Nitte, Nitte. Asticor lauz*; and so reprehending me, would alledge, that where they were in company, no man should pay a blanke: wherefore I was greatly in love with these people: and it was not onely that serued our turne but as often as we met, wee should haue also slices of bacon, peeces of legs of mutton sod in that pleasant wine, with all manner of fine spice, and therewith they would fill, both my bosome and skirts, enough for my wife and mee a whole weeke,

The world being then so plentifull, I would call to remembrance the hungry fits I had sustained in times past, praising the Lord, and giuing him thankes, that the world now at the length was so well changed. But, as the prouerbe saith: He that will doe good to thee, will either goe his way, or die. And so it

L 3

happened

*The Spaniards Life.*

happened to me, the Court remoo-  
ning, as it is wont to doe, and my  
friends following it, at their depart-  
ing I was desired by them, that I  
would beare them company, pro-  
mising to shew me much friendship  
and fauour.

But remembring the old proverb:  
Better is the evill knowne, than the  
good which is yet to know, thanking  
them for their good will, and desi-  
ring their fauour, after many sighs  
and sorowfull embracings, I tooke  
my leaue, and they departed. And  
truely, had I beene unmarried, I  
would never haue so forsaken their  
company, for indeede they were  
people, much of my nature and dis-  
position. And it was a gracious, and  
not a phantasticall, nor a presump-  
tuous life they did leade.

A man should never see them  
scrupulous, nor nice, to enter into a  
Tauerne, but would goe in boldly,  
(yea

*The Spaniards Life.*

(yea, with cap in hand) if the wine for goodnesse deserued so much. They were plaine men, full of all honesty & gentle courtesie, & so well prouided at all times, that I would to God, when I am a thirst, I might alwayes meet with such men. Notwithstanding, the love which I bare to my wife, and to my Countrey (which now I take for mine owne natie, because men doe commonly say; Whence art thou, honest man?) caused me to stay at home. so I continued ever since in this Citie, leading a solitary life for the losse of my friends & courtly life, although that I was well knowen of all the Citizens.

Afterwards, I liued very well at mine owne ease, with encrease of ioy and kindred, for the birth of a trim little daughter, which within a little while after my wife brought forth. Whereat I hauing some euill

*The Spaniards Life.*

suspicion, shee hid sweare all othes,  
that I was the father, and that shee  
was mine. I continued in this estate,  
untill that Fortune thought, that she  
had now given mee too much ease,  
and that shee thought it reason for  
her, to turne backe, and shew me a-  
gaine, her seruice and cruell visage, to  
temper those few yeeres, which I  
passed at ease, with as much more  
trauell and deadly sorrow, which  
now I should endure. O great God,  
who is able to write so unfortunate  
and miserable a case, but must  
let the Inke-horne rest,  
and put the penne  
to his eyes?

To



## To the Reader.

**T**Haugh truth doth purchase hate,  
and glossing beareth the bell:  
Yet is the man to be lik'd,  
that truest tale doth tell,  
Without respect of place,  
of country, or of kinde:  
For so the law of writing doth  
each honest writer blinde:  
Then Lazaro deserves  
no blame, but praise to gaine,  
That plainly pens the Spaniards pranks  
and how they live in Spaine  
He sets them out to shew,  
for all the world to see,  
That Spaine when all is done, is Spaine,  
and what those Gallants bee.  
The VVriter meant but well,  
and he that took the paine,  
To turne it to our mother-tongue,  
the Readers thanks would gaine,

for

For all this former toyle,  
in penning of the booke,  
The suite is small, allow him that,  
that hapst thereon to looke.  
Though small the volume be,  
the value may be great:  
Wherefore to yeeld him thy good will,  
let this my Muse entreat:  
Let Rowland haue reward,  
for this his taken paine:  
And so thou (Reader) maist perhaps  
the like hereafter gaine.

G. Turbeville Gent.

FINIS.



THE  
PVRSVIT  
OF THE  
HISTORIE  
OF  
*Lazarillo De Tormes.*

Gathered out of the  
ancient Chronicles of *Toledo.*

By *Iean de Luna*, a Castilian.  
And now done into English, and set  
forth by the same Author.



Imprinted at London  
by E. G. for *William Leake*,  
1639.

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To the  
RIGHT HONOURABLE  
JAMES Lord STRANGE,  
M<sup>r</sup>. ROBERT STANLEY,  
And the  
Lady ANNE CARRE,

The Hopefull issue of the Truly  
Noble *William*, Earle of *Darby*, and  
his vertuous Countesse *Elizabeth*,  
a fruitfull Branch of the Anci-  
ent and Illustrious  
House of Oxford.

T. W. *in humble acknowledgment*  
of his Duty and Service to their  
Parents themselves, and both the  
Families from whence they  
are derived.

Dedicateth this strangely recovered  
Continuation of the pleasant History  
of *Lazarillo de Tormes*.



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# CARTA

## DEDICATORIA.

Al Illustrissimo y excellentissimo  
Senhor Don *Roberto Car de Ancram*,  
Cauallero titulado, y de la Camara  
Priuada, gran Tesorero de cosas  
extraordinarias de su Al-  
teça el Principe  
de Galles.

*Illustriss. y excellentiss. Senhor :*



Os cosas me han  
mouido a dedicar  
a V. S. esta obra :  
la vna y mas prin-  
cipal es, para mon-  
strar en algo la voluntad que  
tengo de seruir a quien por tan-  
tos

*Carta Dedicatoria.*

tos títulos lo merece, y a quien  
estoy tan obligado. La otra para  
arrimar al pobre *Lazaro* a la som-  
bra, y amparo de quien con su  
autoridad lo defienda, con su vir-  
tud lo adorne, y con su saviduria  
lo califique. Las verdades desnuda-  
das y sin reboço que este libro  
dize, le han hecho passar por el  
fuego, para que acri solado lle-  
gasse a las manos de Vu. Señoria.  
He lo hecho traducir en Ingles,  
fiel, y literalméte, para que se ma-  
nifieste su inocencia, y vea que  
en el no ay cosa que passe les li-  
mites de una honesta, licita y loa-  
ble recreacion: antes es una cen-  
tinela que descubre de lexos los  
enemigos, y muestra los tropie-  
ços

*Carta Dedicatoria.*

cos y barrancos, en que los igno-  
rantes por falta de advertencia ca-  
en, y tropiezan. Supplico a V.S. le  
reciva con su clementia, y bon-  
dad acostumbrada, no echando  
a atrevimiento, lo que ha naci-  
do del deseo que tengo de em-  
plear mi vida, y fuerças, en servi-  
cio de quien soy el mas humilde,  
y obediente de sus criados.

I. DE LVNA.

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The  
Author to the Reader.

**T**He occasion (gentle Reader)  
of Printing the Second  
part of Lazarillo de Tor-  
mes hath bin, that there  
came to my hands a little  
Pamphlet, which treats of his Life without  
any likelihood of truth. The greatest part  
of it is stuf with telling, how LAZARO  
fell into the Sea, where he was turned into  
a Fish called a Tunny, and lived there  
many yeeres, marrying with a shee Tunny,  
by whom he had Children as much Fishes as  
the father and mother. It relateth also the  
Wars that the Tunnies made, LAZARO being  
their Captaine, and many other Tales as ri-  
M 2                      diculous

## To the Reader.

diculous as false, and as ill grounded as foolish. And questionlesse, the Author of it had a minde to utter some foolish dreame, or some dreamed folly. That Booke (I say) hath been the first motive, that hath moved me to bring to light this second Part, word for word, without adding or diminishing, as I have seene it written in certain scroules kept in the Treasury of Records of the Beggars of Toledo, and as I have heard it a hundred times told by my Granmother, and Aunts, by the fireside in the Winter nights, and with the which my Nurse hath weaned me. For the betier confirmation, I remember how they and others of our neighbours would dispute, How it could be possible that Lazaro could bee so long under water (as is said in this second Part) without drowning? Some held pro, and the others, con. The first quoted Lazaro himselfe; who said, That the water could not get into him, by reason that

## To the Reader.

that he was filled and crammed up to the very mouth. A good old man, well skild in swimming, to prove that to bee an easie matter, interposed his authority, affirming, That he had seen a man, who going to swimme in the river Tagus, dived under water, and remained in certaine Caves from Sunneset untill next morning, that by the Sun-shine he did find the way out: and when as his Parents and friends were weary of bewailing and seeking his Body, to give it buriall, he came forth safe and sound. The other difficulty that they found in his life, was, That nobody did take LAZARO for a man, and that as many as saw him, should take him for a Fish. To this answered a good Canon, (who by reason that he was very old, did common'y sit in the Sunne among the Distaffe-Spinners;) That it was most likely of all, as agreeing with the opinion of many ancient and moderne Writers, as among others, Pliny, M 3 Ælian,

## To the Reader.

Ælian, Aristotle, Albertus Magnus, who affirme, That there are certaine Fishes in the Sea, the males they cal Tritons, & the females Nereides, and all of them Sea men, who from the girdle upward have the shape of perfect men and from thence downward, of Fishes. And I say, that although that opinion had not beene defended by so well approved Authors, yet the Licence that the Fishermen had from the Lords Inquisitors, might suffice to excuse the Spanish ignorance, seeing it had been a case of Inquisition to have doubted of a matter which their Lordships had consented should be shewne for such. And to this purpose (though out of my compasse) I will relate an accident that befell a laboring man of my Country : which was, That one of the Inquisitors having sent for him, to begge some of his Peares of him, which hee had heard were excellent ; the poore Clowne  
not

## To the Reader.

not knowing why his Lordship should send for him, was so shaked, that hee fell sicke upon it, till that by the meanes of a friend of his, hee understood the businesse: And then presently starting from his Bed, hee ranne into his Garden, pluckt up the Tree by the roote, and presently sent it with the Fruit, saying, hee would not keepe in his house an occasion for their Lordships to send for him another time; so great is the feare that not onely labouring men, and the baser sort of people, but even the Lords and Grands haue of them. All of them tremble when they heare these words, Inquisitor, and Inquisition, more than the Leaues upon the Tree with the gentle Zephirus. This is that which I haue beene willing to warne the Reader of, that he may be the readier to answer, when such questions shall be propounded in his presence  
if

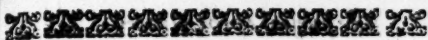
To the Reader.

if hee accept the Second Part, let  
him expect the Third, with the Death  
and Testaments of Lazarillo; which  
is the best of all: if not, hee  
may at least receive my  
good will. Fare-  
well.

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THE

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THE  
P V R S V I T  
OF THE  
HISTORIE  
OF  
*Lazarillo De Tormes.*

Gathered out of the  
ancient Chronicles of *Toledo.*

CH A P. I.

HE *In the which, Lazaro telleth how hee  
parted from Toledo, to goe to the  
Warres of Argiers.*



Ho hath the best,  
and worst doth love,  
must not bee griued  
if worst hee prove.  
I speake it to this  
purpose, that I neither could nor  
would containe my selfe in that  
good

*The pursuit of the History*

good course which Fortune had offered me: Change being in mee as an inseparable accident, that accompanied me as well in my best and plenteous, as in my worst and disastrous fortunes; enjoying then the happiest life that ever Patriarch did, eating like an invited Fryer, drinking more then at a Gossiping, better clothed then a Iesuite, and with two round dozens of Ryals in my purse; surer than any Huckster of *Madrid*; my House full, as a Bee hive; a daughter, got in Capricorne; and an Office, which the Dog whipper of the Cathedrall Charch of *Toledo* might well haue enuyed: Newes came of the Expedition for *Argiers* which disquieted me very much, & made me determine (as a good sonne) to follow the steps and track of my good father *Thomas Gonzales* (whom God absolue) with a desire to leaue  
to



*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

to poster ages a pattern and example, not to lead a crafty blinde man, picke the loafe of a couetous Priest, serue a needy thredbare Squire, & lastly to proclaime the faults of other men: but to open the eyes of *Moore*s blinded with errors, to sink and batter the bold and Pyratieall Nanie; to serue a valiant Captaine, of the order of *S Iohn*; with whom I placed my selfe Butler, upon this condition, That whatsoeuer I should get in warre, should be mine owne, as it was; and lastly, the pattern and example that I meant to leane, was to encourage & animate, in crying *S. Iames*, and, Stand to it *Spaine*. I tooke leave of my welbeloued wife, and of my deare daughter: the one intreated me not to forget to bring her a little *Blackamore*; the other desired me to be mindfull to send her by the first Carrier a Slaue, to wait upon her, & some *Barbary Cecchines* with

with which she might comfort her selfe in my absence. I asked leaue of the Arch-Priest my master, to whose care and custodie I committed both my Wife, and Daughter, who promised mee to deale with them in no worse manner, than if they had beene his owne. I parted from *Toledo* iouiall, stately, and content, (as all are that goe to the Warres) putt up with glorious hopes, accompanied with a great number of friends, and neighbours, that went the same voyage, carried with a desire of bettering their fortune. Wee came to *Murcia*, with intention to goe shippe our selues at *Cartagena*: where, there befell mee that which I little wished, to make me know, that Fortune, who had set me on the toppe of her unconstant Wheele, and advanced me to the highest degree of earthly felicitie, began already (in her swift course)

course) to hurle me downe head-long to the lowest. The chaunce was, that comming to our Lodgings, I saw a femy-man, who seemed rather a hee Goat, by reason of his ragged and tottered Garments: his Hat was pulled downe ouer his eyes, so that I could by no meanes see his face; hee leaned his cheeke upon his hand, and had his legge crosse ouer his Sword, which he wore in a halfe Scabbard made of Lifts: his Hat (right Beggers Blocke) had no crowne, the better to euaporate the humours of his head: his Doublet was of the *French* fashion, so cut, and flasht with wearing, as there was not a piece left bigge enough, to wrap up halfe a farthing worth of Cummin Seed in: his Shirt was of flesh, which might be seene through the Grate of his Garment; his Breeches were suteable: his Stockings,  
the

*The pursuit of the History*

the one red, the other greene, came scarce to his Anckles, his shooes without soles, were as good to bee drawne as carried. By a Cocks Feather which he wore in his Hat, I thought hee should be a Souldier: With this imagination, I asked him from whence he was, and whither hee went? He casting up his eyes, to see who he was that questioned him, straight knew me, and likewise I him; it was the Squire whom I had serued in *Toledo*: I wa astonished to see him in such a pickle. Hee obseruing my amazement, said to mee; I maruell not (friend *Lazaro*) if thou doest wonder to see me in this equipage: but anon thou shalt leave wondring, when I have told thee what hath happened unto me, since the time that I left thee in *Toledo* untill now. Returning to my lodging, with the change of my Pistoler to discharge

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

charge my Creditors, I met with a Woman, close wrapt up in her Veyle; who pulling mee by the Cloake, with teares, and sighes, mingled with sobs, intreated mee earnestly to be favourable unto her in an urgent necessitie. I bad her speake her grieve, which she should be longer in telling, than I in helping. Shee continuing her weeping, with a maidenly shamefastnesse said, that the courtesie which I was to doe her, and whereof shee was to request me, was, to accompany her unto *Madrid*, where shee was told that a Gentleman was, who not content to have dishonoured her, had also robbed her of all her Jewels, without any regard to the promise of Marriage which hee had given her; and that if I would doe this for her, shee would doe for mee what a thankfull woman is obliged to doe.

I.

I comforted her after the best manner that I could ; giuing her this hope, that if her enimie were to bee found in the Word, shee might hold her selfe alreadie reuenged. To conclude, without any delay we set forwards towards the Court, whitherto I bare all the charges. The good Damsell ( that knew well whithershe went ) carried me to a Band of Souldiers, who receiued her with all chearfulnesse, and brought her before the Captaine, to haue her inrolled for one of their Cockatrices: Then turning herselfe towards me, with a shamelesse and brazen countenance shee said, Farewell Master Lubber, I haue now no more need of you. I seeing my selfe thus gulled began to rage and foame at my mouth, telling her, that if she had beene a man, as well as shee was a woman, I would haue pulled her Soule up by

by the roots out of her Body. A  
perry Souldier among the rest, rose  
up to me, and laying his hand up-  
on my face, made me aduance a  
Baboones Snowt; not daring to  
giue me a boxe on the eare; which  
if hee had, his Graue might haue  
beene digged in the same place.  
When I saw the matter grow  
worse and worse, Mum said I,  
and went my way a little faster  
than ordinary, to try if some tall  
fellow or other durst haue follow-  
ed mee, that wee might haue cut  
one anothers throat; for had I en-  
countred with any of the baser  
stamp, and had killed him (as  
without doubt I had) what honour  
or what credite had I gotten? But  
if the Captaine had come forth, or  
some Swash-buckler, would haue  
giuen him more flashes then there  
is Sand in the Sea. When I per-  
ceiued that none durst follow me,

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I

I went away very well pleased. After that, I sought for a Service, and because I could not finde such an one as I deserve, I am as thou seest mee. The troth is, that I might have beene Butler or Vsher to five or six Botcher-Wives; Offices, that though I were ready to starve, I would not accept of. Finally my good Master said, that because hee could not meete with certaine Merchants of his Countrey, who would have lent him Money, hee was without it, and knew not whither to goe that Night. I, that straight smelt his meaning, invited him to the halfe of my bed, and Supper; which offer hee willingly accepted. As wee went to Bed, I desired him not to lay his Clothes upon it, because it was too little for so much companie. The next morning, thinking to rise without any



any noyse, I reached my hand to my Clothes, but I found *Blanco*: for the Slave had stolne them, and was gone away with them. I thought verily I should have dyed in my Bed for sorrow: and it had beene farre better for mee, for then had I escaped the many deaths, which since I have suffered. I beganne to cry as loud as I could, Theeves, Theeves; which those of the House hearing, came up, and found mee as a Swimmer new come out of the Water, seeking in every corner of the Chamber something to cover mee, They all fell a laughing, as if they had beene mad, and I a swearing like a Carman. I gave to the devill that Theefe, and bragging Cheater, who halfe the night long had kept me awake, with telling mee the greatnesse of his person and kindred. All the remedie that for that time I could finde (no-  
No body

body helping mee with a better) was to trie, if the Garments of that said Braggadocio could fit mee, till God had sent mee some others. But it was a Labyrinth; they had neither beginning, nor ending: there was no difference betwixt Breeches, and Ierkin. I thrust my Legges into the Sleeves, and wore the Breeches for a Doublet; not forgetting the Stockings, which seemed to bee some Chandlers drawing Sleeves: the Shooes were like Shackles about my Legges, because they wanted Soles. I blockt on the Hat, the Crowne downeward, because it was lesse greasie. And as for the troopes that travelled over mee on foot and horseback, I let them passe. In this Habit went I to my Master, who had sent to call mee; who wondering to seee such a skare Crow, fell into such a laughter, that

that his back-strings slackening, hee could hold no longer, but made flouſh; the which (for his credite) it is fitting ones tongue ſhould paſſe over with ſilence. After a thouſand ſtoppes, he asked me the reaſon of this Diſgaiſe; I told it him: and theretupon, inſtead of raking pittie of mee, hee chid me, and turned me out of doores, ſaying, That as then I had brought that man into my Bed; ſo another time, I would doe the like with ſome other, that would rob him.

N 3 CHAP.

## CHAP. II.

*How Lazaro tooke shipping at  
Cartagena.*

**I** Alwayes have had a gift, not to stay long with one Master; no more did I with this, though not by my fault. I saw my selfe forsaken, alone, and distressed; in such plight, as every one would thrust mee from him, gybing and laughing at mee. One would tell mee, That Hat with a Back-doore, is not much amisse; it lookes like a Dutch-womans Cappe: Another would say, That Doublet is of the Fashion, it is like an Hogstye; and the rather, seeing your Worship is in it: they runne so thicke, that hee might kill them, and send them salted to the good Lady his Wife. A Snap-sack-bearer said to me: Fore God, Sir

*Lazaro,*

Lazaro, those Stockings make you a very good Calfe. Every one did so scoffe and flout mee, that I was in minde to returne home againe, but that I thought, that there would bee but poore Warres, if I should not get more than I had lost. That, that grieved mee most, was, that they fled from me as from one that were infected. Wee tooke shipping at *Cartagena*: the ship was great, and well provided. They hoisted up the Sailes, and committed them to the Wind, which carried it, and drove it with great swiftnesse. The shore vanished from our sight, and the Sea began to swell with a contrary Wind, which raised the Billowes, unto the Clouds. The tempest increased, and our hope diminished. The mariners and pilots gave us over: The wayling and weeping was so great, that mee thought we were at a *good friday* correction.

The noyse was so great, that nothing of what was commanded, could bee understood : The one runned to one place, the other to another : wee all seemed Braziers. Every one confessed himselfe to whom hee could : such there were as confessed themselves to a Punk; who gave them the absolution after as good a manner, as if shee had exercised the Office many yeeres. It is good angling in a muddie Water : When I saw that they were all busie, I said to my selfe, Die then, and die full. And thereupon I went downe to the bottome of the Ship, where there was great store of Bread, Wine, Pasties, and Preserves, for no body said so much as what make you here ? I began to eat of all, and to fill my belly, that I might have provision enough till Doomes-day. In the meane time there came a Souldier  
to

to mee, desiring me to shrieve him:  
Who, amazed to see mee with so  
good Cheere, and Appetite, asked  
me, How I could eat, seeing death  
before mine eyes? I answered him,  
That I did it for feare lest the Sea-  
water, which I was to drinke in my  
drowning, should doe mee any  
harme. This my simplicitie, made  
him fetch a laugh from his heeles.  
Many confessed themselves to mee,  
not able to utter one true word for  
griefe and feare; nor I to hearken  
unto them, for haste that I had to fill  
my selfe. The Captaine, and men  
of note, with two Priests that were  
there, saved themselves in the Cock-  
boat. I being ill apparellled, could  
not bee received into it. When I  
had eaten my fill, I went mee to a  
Hogs-head of good Wine, and  
there powring downe my Throat  
as much as ever I could, I forgot  
both my selfe and the Tempell. The  
Ship

Ship overturned, and the Water came in, as in her home. A Corporall taking hold of both my hands amidst the pangs of death, desired mee to heare a sinne whereof hee would confesse himselfe unto mee, which was, That he had not fulfilled a Penance which had been enjoyned him, to goe on Pilgrimage to our Lady of *Loretta*, having had many opportunities to effect it; and that then, when hee would, hee could not. I told him, that by the authority which I had received, I did change it him, and that in stead of going to our Lady of *Loretta* hee should goe to *S. James*. Alas Sir (saide hee) how willingly would I accomplish this Penance; but already the water begins to get into my mouth so that I cannot. If it be so, saide I againe, I enioyne you for your Penance to drinke all the water of the Sea: but hee did not execute



execute it, by reason that there were others that drunke as much as hee. The water comming to my mouth, I cryed out, To another doore, for this cannot open; and although it had beene open, yet could it not have entred, because my body was so full of Wine, that it lookt like a puffed Bladder. At the noyse of the cracking of the Ship, came a great quantity of Fish, eating the flesh of the Wretches that were drowned (and not in a little Water) as if they fed in a Common. In the little time that I was a going to the bottome, and comming up againe, I saw incredible things; An infinite number of Bones, and Bodies of Men, great store of Coffers, full of Money and Jewels, great quantitie of Armes, Silkes, Linnen, and Spices. I had a great mind to all, and it grieved mee much, that I had it not all fate at home, with which (as a *Biscay* said)

I

*Zigarrales*  
is a place  
in *Toledo*,  
where  
there are  
very plea-  
sant Gar-  
dens.

I would eat my Bread printed with *Sardines*. If I could but get out these Riches now, (said I to my selfe) no Inne-keeper in the world should fare more delicatly than I. I would build Houses, establish Revenewes, and purchase a Garden in the *Zigarrales*. My Wife should stile her selfe Lady, and I Lordship: I would marry my daughter to the richest Cooke in my Countrey. Every one would come and congratulate mee, and I would tell them, that I had wrought fairely, drawing my Wealth, not out of the entralles of the Earth, but from the very heart of the Sea: not wet with sweat, but through wet with water, as any dried *Poore-Iohn*. In all my life, I was never so content as then; not considering, that if I opened my mouth, I should remaine there buried with the Treasure, for ever and a day.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

*How Lazaro came out of the Sea.*

**S**Eeing my selfe so neere unto my end, I feared ; and so nigh the Treasure, I rejoyced : Death affrighted me, the Treasure delighted mee. To shun that, since I could not enjoy this, I rent off from my back the ragges that the Squire my Master had left mee, for the good services which I had done him, and began to swimme (though I had but very little skill therein) Necessity giving Wings to my feet, and Oares to my hands. I know not how ; a Cord fastened about my foot, which (as farre as I could perceive) was tyed to a great Chest (without doubt, full of Jewels) which though I could, I would not unloosen ; imagining, whether my

my former thoughts might not have beene some prophecie. But such was my bad luck, that if all the prophecies in the World had promised mee some happy and constant fortune, yet none of them had come to passe. As the Cord lengthened, my hopes and ambition increased, beleaving, that if I could but come a shore with it, I would draw and pull out of the Sea that great Chest, wherewith *Lazaro* should bee more wealthy, and more respected, than *Prestor Iohn* of the *Indies*. The Fishes which were about mee, came to bite mee, thrusting mee forward with their bobs, which were to mee as a Stirrop: And so they jogging, and I kicking, wee came almost to the top of the Water, where there befell mee a chance, which was cause of all my misfortune. The Fishes and I ranne into a Ner, which  
cer-

certaine Fishermen had cast forth :  
who feeling a Draught, drew it up  
with such violence (and the Water  
with no lesse, beginning to enter  
into mee) that unable to resist, I  
began to drowne, and could not  
have escaped, if the Saylers (ac-  
cording to their accustomed haste)  
had not drawne up the prey into  
their Boat. The Devill take that  
filthy savour : in all my life time  
I never drunke worse stufte ; it ta-  
sted somewhat like the Worship-  
full Arch-Priest his Pisse, which  
once my Wife made mee drinke,  
telling mee it was Wine of *Oca-Ocana*, a  
*na*. Having put into the Boat *Citie in*  
the Fishes, and I among them, *Spain*  
they began to draw the Cord, by *where ve*  
the which (as it is said) they *ry good*  
pulled up the Bottome : they found *Wine is*  
mee tyed at it ; whereat much a- *made.*  
mazed, they said, What Fish is  
this, that hath the face of a man ?  
Is

24 *The pursuit of the History*

Is it not some Devill, or some Spirit? But let us draw this Rope, and see what Clogge hangs at the heeles. Then fell they a haling and tugging, with such might and maine, that they had like to have sunke the Boat: Perceiving the danger, they presently cut the Rope, and with it, the hopes of *Lazaro*, of ever attaining to the greatnesse of the *Goths*. They held my head downe-ward, that I might the better cast out the water, as also the Wine, which I had dranke. They perceived, that I was not dead, (which had not beene the worst for mee) and gave me a little Wine, with the which (as a Lampe with Oyle) I came againe to my selfe. They asked mee a hundred Questions, but I answered to none of them, untill such a time as they gave mee some Meat. Then recovering breath, the first thing that I asked them,

The *Goths* were the first Kings of Spaine, from whence, when a man is termed rich and great, he is said to be of the *Goths*.

of *Lazarillo de Tormes.*

them, was for the Clogge which  
I dragged at my foot: They an-  
swere me, that they had cut it,  
to saue themselves from the dan-  
ger wherein they were. There did  
*Troy* lose her selfe, and *Lazaro* his  
well-placed desires: there began  
his paines, griefes, and torments.  
There is no greater vexation in the  
World, than to have beene rich,  
and eleuated to the Hornes of the  
Moone; and afterward, to be-  
come poore, and subiect to fooles.  
All my *Chimeræes* were built upon  
the Water; and in an instant, it  
drowned them all. then did I re-  
late unto the Fisherman, what  
both they and I had lost, by cut-  
ting off my Iesses: which, when  
they understood, they were so  
griued, that one of them had  
like to runne madde. But one of  
the grauest among them sayd,  
That it would bee good to turne

O

mee

*The pursuit of the History*

mee againe into the Sea, and to stay there for mee, untill I came forth againe. They were all of his opinion; and, notwithstanding all the inconueniencies which I represented unto them, they persisted in their deliberation, saying, That since I knew the way, it would bee an easie thing for mee (as if it had beene no more, than to goe to a Cookes Shop, or to a Tauerne.) They were so blinded with covetousnesse, that alreadie they would have throwne mee over boord; if my good, or rather bad fortune, had not brought to the place where wee were, another Boat, which came to carry away their Draught. Wherefore they held their peace, lest the others should know of the Treasure which they had discovered, and were constrained for that time, to desist from their  
cruell



*of L'Arille de Tordis.*

cruell intention. They brought  
their Boates to the shore, and  
craftily threw mee among the  
Fishes, with intent to returne to  
seeke mee againe, when conveniently  
they might. Then two of  
them tooke mee, and secretly  
carried mee to a little Cottage,  
not farre from thence. One that  
knew not the mystery, asked  
them what was that; They an-  
swered, That it was a Monster  
which they had taken with the  
Tunnies. When I saw my selfe  
in the lodge, I desired them  
to give mee some raggs, or cloth  
ther, to cover my nakednesse,  
that I might shew my selfe be-  
fore men. That shall be (an-  
swered they) when the Recko-  
ning is made with the Hostesse;  
but I understood not (at that pre-  
sent) that kinde of language.  
The same of the Monster did

*The pursuit of the History*

spread it selfe throughout all the Countrey, so that much people came to the Cottage, for to see mee: But the Fishermen would not shew mee, saying, That they expected a Licence from the Bishop and Inquisitors to that end; vntill when, they desired to be excused. I was amazed, not knowing what to say, or doe, little imagining what their intention was. It was with mee as with Cuckolds, who are the last that know, that they are such: these Diuels found out an Invention, the Diuell himselfe could not have invented the like; which requireth a new Chapter, and new attention.

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Chap.

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of Lazarillo de Tormes

CHAP. III.

*How Lazaro was carried through  
all Spaine.*

**O**ccasion makes the theefe.  
Which the Fisherman seeing to offer selle so faire unto them, tooke hold of, not onely by the fore-top, but by the whole body. For perceiuing that so great number of the people came to see the new Fish, they determined to recompence themselves of the losse that they had made, in cutting the Rope from my foot: and therefore they sent to demand a Licence of the Inquisitors, to shew over all Spaine a Fish, that had a mans face. They obtained it very easily, by meanes of a Present which they made to their Lordships, of the best Fish they had taken. When then the good Lazaro was giuing thanks

*The pursuit of the History*

to God, that hee had drawne him  
out of a Filthes belly (which was a  
miracle, by so much the greater, by  
how much my skill and cunning  
was the lesse, swimming like a  
Barre of Iron) soue of them (who  
seemed rather Executioners, such  
as crucified Christ, than men) came  
and tooke me up, and binding my  
hands behinde my backe, put me on  
a Beare, not forgetting the great  
Mustachios, and a Periwig made  
of Mosse, that made mee shew like  
a wilde man in a garden. They  
wrapped up my feet in Flagges,  
as a Trowt of the Mountaines. I  
bewayled my mishap, I sighed,  
complaining of my Destinie. O  
Fortune (said I) why doest thou  
persecute me thus? In all my life  
I never saw uor knew thee: but  
if by the effects, one may judge of  
the cause; by the tryall which  
alreadie I have had of thee, I  
am

The best  
Trouts in  
Spaine are  
taken in  
the springs  
of rivers in  
the Moun-  
taines,  
from  
whence  
they are  
brought  
wrapped  
up in flags  
for feare  
of spoy-  
ling.

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

am verily perswaded, that no Syren, Baziliske, Viper, or Lionesse with Whelpes, is more cruell than thou art. Thou raysest men by thy flatteries and cherishings, to the highest of thy delights and riches, and from thence doest hurle them headlong into the depth of all miseries and calamities, by so much the greater, by how much thy favours have beene great. One of these my Tormentors hearing my complaint, with a Carter-like voice said to mee, If Master Tunnie speake but a word more, hee shall presently bee salted with his companions, or bee burned for a Monster: The Lords of the Inquisition( continued hee) have ordayned, that wee carrie him thorow all the Cities and Places of *spaine*, to make him bee seene of all men, as a Prodigie, and Monster, of Nature.

I

*The pursuit of the History*

I swore and vowed unto them, that I was neither Tunnie, Monster, nor any such thing, but as good a man as any neighbours Childe whatsoever: and that if I was come out of the Sea, it was by reason I had fallen into it, among those that were drowned, going to the Warres of *Argiers*. But they were deafe and so much the more, that they were not minded to understand mee. Seeing that my prayers were as vainely spent, as *Sudds* about an *Asse* face; I put on patience, expecting till Time, that procureth all, should cure my anguish, proceeding from those cursed *Metamorphosis*. They put me in a halfe Tubbe, made after the fashion of a *Brigantine*, full of Water; so that sitting in it, it came up to my *Lippes*. I could not stand upon my feet, for they were tyed with a Rope, whereof one end came out

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

out through a Leaden pipe, put betweene the hoopes and boords of the said Tub, in such sort, that it by mischance I grunted never so little, in pulling onely the Rope, they made me plunge (like a duck) and drinke more Watter than one that bath the Dropsie. I shut my mouth close, till such time as hee that pulled the Rope, had slackened it; and then I crept out with my head like a Tortoyse, learning from thenceforth by my owne harme to beware. Being laid in this maner, they shewed me to every one; and the number of those that came to see me, was so great, that in one day (euery one paying three halpence) they got two hundred Ryals. The more they gained, the more they couered; which made them have a great care of my welfare. They entered in consultation, whether it were best every night to take me out of the water, lest the  
over

*The pursuit of the History*

over-much moistnesse and cold might shorten my life, which was dearer unto them than their owne for the profit which they received by it. At length they concluded, that I should still remaine therein; perswading themselves, that custome would turne into nature: so that by that meanes poore *Lazaro* was as green Rice, or Hempe in a standing Poole. I leaue to the charitable consideration of the Gentle Reader, what in such a case I might endure, seeing my selfe detained in so strange a kinde of Prison, a Captive in a Land of freedome, and fettered by the malice of those covetous Puppet-players; and (which was worst, and plagued me most) was to be forced to counterfeite the dumbe man, without being so; nor to have power so much as to open my mouth, because that at the instant that I did open it, my Centinell was so watchfull, that (without being discovered by  
any



of Lazarillo de Tormes.

any one) he would stop it with water, for feare lest I should speake. My meat was soaked Bread, which those that came there, threw mee, to see me eate: so that in the space of sixe moneths that I remained in that Bath, the Deuill a bit of any thing else that I did eate, being ready to die for hunger. My drinke was the Water of the Tubbe; which not being very cleane, was the more substantial for the coldnesse thereof gaye me a Laskewhich lasted as long as I continued in that watry Purgatory.

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CHAP.

CHAP V.

How Lazaro was carried to  
the Court.

**T**Hese Extortioners carried  
mee from Citie to Citie,  
from Towne to Towne,  
and from Farme to Farme, more  
jocund with their gaine, than the  
Earth with May flowres; and flow-  
ting poore Lazaro, thus did sing:

*Long life and health God grant  
unto the Fish,  
Who (without working) doth  
maintaine our dish.*

The Hearse wherin I was, was  
carried upon a Cart, and attended  
by three; the Car-man; hee that  
drew the Cord when I did offer to  
speake; and he that related my life:  
who likewise made the speeches,  
telling the strange meanes they had  
used

used to catch mee, and lying more confidently then any Taylor upon an Easter Eue. When we tranelled through uninhabited places, they suffered me to speake; which was the greatest courtesie I receiued of them. I asked them, what Deuill had put it into their heads? to carry me up and downe after such a manner in a Tubbe. They answered me, That if they had not done so, I would have dyed presently; for being (as I was) a Fish, they knew I could not live out of the Water. Seeing them so confident, I determined to be one; and so I perswaded my selfe, since that euery one esteemed me so; beleeuing, that the Sea-Water might have transformed mee (the voice of the people being, according to the Prouerbe, the voice of God) so that from thence forward I was as silent as if I had been at Masse. They brought mee

*The pursuit of the History*

me to the Court, where their game was great, the followers thereof being very desirous of nouelties, as men that live in perpetuall idlenesse. Among many that came to see mee, there were two Schollers, who considering more exactly my Physiognomie, said in a low voice, That they durst sweare upon a Booke, that I was no Fish, but a Man; and that if they had beene in any charge of Iustice, they would have listd out the naked truth, with a Whip on their naked shoulders. I prayed to God in my mind that they would doe it, so that I might have beene freed from thence; and thereupon I thought to helpe them forwards, saying, the Gentlemen Schollers are in the right. But scarce had I opened my mouth, when my Centinell had popped it under Water. The shouting that all the people kept when I ducked my selfe

(or

(or rather they ducked me) hindred  
the good Licentiates to proceed a-  
ny further in their discourse. They  
threw me bread, and I gobbled it up  
before it could be through wet, but  
they gave me not half so much as I  
could have eaten. Then I remembered  
the plenty that I had in *Toledo*, & my  
good friends the *Germans*, & what  
good wine I was wont to cry; besee-  
ching God not to suffer me to die by  
water, my greatest enemy: after that  
I entred into consideration of what  
the students had said, which by rea-  
son of the noise, nobody had under-  
stood, and confirmed my selfe in the  
opinion that I was a man, and from  
thence forward I held my selfe to  
be one, although my Wife had of-  
tentimes told me that I was a beast,  
& the boies of *Toledo* were wont to  
say unto me, Good M. *Lazaro*, pull  
your Hat downe lower upon your  
forehead, for one may see your horns  
and

*The pursuit of the History*

and their carrying of mee thus in  
pickle, had made me doubt whe-  
ther I were a perfect man, or no.  
But as soone as I heard these blef-  
sed and quicke-sighted Overseers  
speake, I made no more doubt of it,  
but sought meanes to free my selfe  
from the hands of those *Chaldeans*.  
One night, in the deadeſt time, ſee-  
ing my Guards aſt a ſleepe, I tryed  
to unbinde my ſelfe: but by reaſon  
that the Cords were wet, it was  
impoſſible for me, I thought, to  
cry out, but I conſidered, that it  
would auaile mee nothing, for the  
firſt of them that ſhould heare me,  
would have ſtopped my mouth  
with a pottle of Water. Seeing  
this gate ſhut to my remedy, with  
great impatience I began to rum-  
ble and wallow in my mire, and at  
length, with my toſſing and ſtruga-  
ling, I overthrew the Tub and my  
ſelfe withall, ſpilling all the water.  
When

When I saw my selfe free, I began to call out for helpe. The Fishermen awaking, all amazed to see what I had done, came in haste to releeeve me, by stopping my mouth and cramming it with Grasse : and the better to confound my exclamations, they likewise with a lowder straine fell a crying, help, help; and amidst this hurly-burly, they ran to a Well hard by, and with an incredible diligence filled up the Tub againe. The Host came forth with a Halbert, and all those of the house, some with Spits, and some with Poles. The neighbours came running in, and a Bailiffe with his associates, that were passing that way. The Inne-keeper asked the Saylers what the matter was, who answered, that theeves would have stolne away their Fish; which he hearing, (as if he had beene mad) fell a crying out, Theeves, Theeves. Some watched if they would steale out at

P

the

the doore ; others looked, if they did not climb from one house to another: but already my keeper had returned me into my Bath. It happēd, that the Water which had been spilled, ranne all thorow a hole into a lower chamber, upon the bed where the Daughter of the house did lye, who moved with charity, had afforded part of it to a Priest, who for hersake was come to lodge there that night. They were so skared with the deluge of Water that fell upō their bed, & with the outcries & noise that every one did make, that, not knowing what shift to make, they threw themselves out at a window as naked as *Adam* and *Eve*. Now did the Moon shine so bright, that she might have entred in comparison with him frō whom she doth receive her brightnesse. As soone as they saw them, they cryed out, there be the Theeves, stop the Theeves. The Bailiffe and his assistants ran after them, and overtooke them



them not far from thence, (by reason that being bare footed, the stones did hinder their speed) and without any delay carried them to Prison. The Fishermen the next morning very early tooke leave of *Madrid* to goe to *Toledo* not knowing what was become of the kind hearted Wench, and the devout Priest.

## CHAP. VI.

*How Lazaro was carried to Toledo.*

**T**he Industry of Men is vaine; their Knowledge, Ignorance; & their might, Impotency; where God doth not strengthen, direct, and guide them. My labour served only to increase the care and solicitude of my laylors; who angry for their last nights *Alarū*, gave mee so many Bastinadoes by the way, that they left me almost for dead, saying, Accursed Fish, would you have beene gone? Do you not ac-

P 2

knowledge

knowledge the great good one doth you, in not killing you ? you are as the Oake, that yeeldeth not his fruit without cudgelling. After this manner, bruised, upbraided, and almost dead for hunger, they entred me into *Toledo*, and lodged themselves hard by a place called the *Zocedober*, at a Widdowes House, Whose Wine I was wont to crie. They put mee in a lower Roome, where a multitude of people came to see mee, and among others, my *Eluira*, holding my daughter by the hand. When I saw them, I could not but give way to two Niles of teares, that gushed out of mine eyes. I wept, and sighed, but within my selfe, for feare they should deprive me of what I so much loved, and of the sight of that, which I desired to have a thousand eyes to see, though it had beene better, that those who hindred my speech had also taken from mee my visible faculty. For  
 looking

looking earnestly upon my Wife, I saw her (I know not if I may speak it) I saw her with a belly mounted to her mouth. I was amazed and astonished, although (had I beene in my right wits) I had had no great cause: for the Arch-Priest, my Master, had told me, when I went to the Warres, that hee would deale with her as if shee had beene his owne. But what most vexed mee was, that I could not perswade my selfe that shee was with childe by me, having beene absent above a yeere. Indeed when I dwelt with her, and that wee were at Bed and Boord together, and that shee would say to mee, *Lazaro*, doe not beleewe that I am false to thee; for so doing, thou doest wondrous ill: I was so well satisfied, that I abhorred to conceive an evill thought of her, even as the Devill doth holy-water; I lived joviall, content, and without Jelousie, the disease of Fooles. I have of-

tentimes considered with my selfe,  
 that this matter of childrē doth chiefly  
 consist in imagination: for how many  
 are there, that love such as they  
 think to be theirs, who indeed belong  
 to them no otherwise, than by name &  
 number? and others, who (for certaine  
*Chymeræes* forged in their braines, that  
 their Wives have grafted upon their  
 heads the punishment of *Atē* constem-  
 erity) doe hate and abhorre those that  
 be their owne? I began to reckon the  
 moneths, and dayes, but I found the  
 way stopt to my comfort. I thought,  
 whether my deare bed fellow were  
 not sick of the Dropsie, but that pious  
 imagination lasted me but very little:  
 for, as soon as she was gon forth, two  
 old gossipes begā to say one to another,  
 What think you of the Arch-Priest-  
 res? she hath no want of her Husbād,  
 Who hath got her with:childe, asked  
 the other? Who? replied the first,  
 Marry, the reverēd Arch-Priest who

is

is so good, that (for to give no scandal, if shee should be delivered in his house, without having a Husband) he doth marry her the next Sunday to *Peter Gabacho*, who wil be as patiēr as my Gossie *Lazaro*. That was the Touchstone, & *Non plus ultra* of my patience; it began to overcome my Heart: So that, sweating within the Water, & unable to helpe my selfe, I fell downe in a swoone within the Hog-stie. The water then entring amain through all the passages, without any resistance, I appeared to be dead (much against my will, which was, to live as long as it would please God, and I should be able, in spight of *Galicians*, & all crosse Fortune.) The Fishermen very heavy, caused all that were there, to goe out, and in all haste lifted my head out of the water; but they found that I was without pulse, or breath, as they themselves were for very grief, bewailing their losse, w<sup>ch</sup> to them was none

of the least. They took me out of the Tubbe, and did what they could to make mee vomit that which I had swallowed; but all in vaine, for death (as they thought) had already shut the doore after her. They remained blank (as at a running Lottery) not knowing any remedie, nor how to ease their griefe. It was at last decreed by the Councell of three, that the Night following they should carry mee to the River, and should there throw me in, with a stone about my neck; to make that my Grave, which had beene the instrument of my death.

## CHAP. VII.

*what happened to Lazaro upon the way to the River Tagus.*

**L**Et no man despaire, how afflicted soever hee seeth himselfe; for when hee shall least expect it,

it, God will open the gates & windows of his Mercy, & shew, that nothing is impossible unto him; and that he can and will change the designs of the wicked into wholesome and comfortable remedies, for such as put their trust in him. These Knaves in graine thinking that Death did not jest (whose custome is little so to doe) put me into a Sack, and (laying me overthwart a Mule, as a Goats skin of Wine, or rather of Water, being full thereof to the very mouth) tooke their way downe the Hill of the *Carmelites*, more sorrowfull than if they had beene going to bury the Father that begot them, or the Mother that bare them. It was my good fortune, when they put me upon the Mule, to be laid upon my stomack and belly; so that going with my mouth downward, I began to cast out Water, as if a Sluce-gate had beene opened, or as if I had been the fish \**Frago*, by means wher of

In Spaine they use to carry Wine or Water upon Mules or Horses in Goates or Calves skins, fitted to that purpose, which they call Caques. \* *Frago* with the Spaniards is a Fish that out of his mouth doth sometimes cast so much water, that it is able to drowne a boat.

whereof I came againe to my selfe; & gathering breath, I perceived I was out of that accursed water Tub: but I neither knew where I was, nor whether they carried me. Only I heard them say, It is best for our safety to seek out some Pit very deep, that hee may not bee found so soone. By the thred I recovered the needle, & imagining presently what the matter was, & seeing the Crow could be no blacker than his wings, hearing a noise of people thereabouts I began to cry out, Help, for the Lords sake. The stir I heard was the Watch, who came instantly to my out-cry with their naked swords, & ransacking the Sack, found poore *Lazaro* through soaked, as a Green-fish. They caried us all, as they found us to the gaole; the fishermen weeping to see themselves prisoners, & I laughing being at liberty. They put them in a dungeon, & me in a good bed. The next day being examined,  
They



They confessed, indeed they had carried me up and down through *Spain*: but that they had done it, beleeving I was a Fish; & to that effect they had obtained a Licence of the Lords of the Inquisitiō. For my part, I told the truth, and how those Rascals held me bound, & put me into such a posture, as I was not able so much as to grunt. They brought in the Arch-Priest, and my good *Elvira*, to prove if it were true that I were that *Lazaro de Tormes*, whom I said I was. My wife etred the first, & earnestly beholding me, said, That the truth was, I somewhat resembled her good husband; but shee beleeved I was not hee: for though I had alwayes been a great Beast, I was more likely to becom a Gnat or an ox than a fiish. Having thus said, making a low cursie, she wēt forth. My hang-mā's atturny required, that I might be burn'd, because without doubt I was a Monster, which he did binde himselfe to prove. ( The Devill I am as

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soone, (said I to my selfe) unlesse  
some Conjuror now should persecute  
me, transforming me into what hee  
listeth. ) The Iudges commanded him  
to be silent. Then came in the reve-  
rend Arch-Priest, who seeing mee so  
bleake, and wrimples, like an old  
Wivesbelly, said, That he neither  
knew me by my face nor shape. I then  
remembred him of some old passages,  
and many secrets that had passed be-  
tweene us; particularly I bad him re-  
member the Night that he came na-  
ked unto my bed, saying, that he was  
afraid of a Hob-goblin that haunted  
his chamber, and laid himselfe be-  
tweene my Wife and me. H<sup>c</sup>, for  
feare I should have proceeded any  
farther in tokens, confessed it to bee  
true, that I was *Lazaro*, his good  
friend and servant. The Suit ended  
with the testimonie of the Captaine  
that had carried me from *Toledo* (and  
was one of those that escaped the  
Tempest

Tempest in the Cockboat) who acknowledged, that I was in person *Lazarillo* his servant; and all this did agree with the relation of the time and place where the fishermen said they had caught me. They condemned every one of them to two hundred stripes, and their goods confiscated, the one part to the King, the other to the Prisoners, and the third to *Lazarillo*. They were found to have two thousand Ryals, two Mules, and a Cart; of the which (all duties and charges paid) there fell to my share twenty ducats. The Sailers remained bare and comfortlesse, and I rich and content; for in all my life before I had not seen my selfe Master of so much money at once. I went to the house of one of my Friends: where, after I had powred down my Throat some Gallons of Wine, to wash away the evill favour of the Water, and put my selfe into good Clothes, I began to walke like

Fiftie pounds.

A Duckat is five shillings six pence of our mony.

like an earle, faring like a King, honored of my Friends, feared of mine Enemies, & welcome to all. The miseries I passed, seemed to me a Dreame; the present happines, a haven of rest; the futur hopes, a Paradise of pleasure. Adversitie doth humble, prosperity puffe up the minde. All the time the twenty duckats lasted, if the King had called me Cousin, I had taken it for an affront. When wee *Spaniards* can get a Ryall, we are Princes; and though we want it, we do not want presumption. If you aske a shake-rag who he is, hee will answer, that (at the least) he is descended from the *Goths*, & his bad fortune hath thus dejected him; being the property of the foolish World, to elevate the base, and debase the worthy; and yet such as he is, he would not yeeld to any, nor esteeme himselfe lesse than the greatest; and would rather sterue, than put himselfe to any Trade; or if hee doth, it is with such contempt

contempt and distaste, that either hee will not worke at all ; or if he doth, it is so ill, that hardly in all *Spaine* shall one finde a good workman of a *Spaniard*. I remember there was a Cobler in *Salamanca*; who, when one did bring him any thing to mend, would make a long discourse to himselfe, complaining of his evill fortune, that had reduced him to the necessity of working in so base a Trade, being descended from such a house and from such parents, who for their worth were known over all *Spaine*. I asked one day a neighbor of his, of what kindred that Bragadocio was. Hee told mee, his father was a treader of Grapes in Vintage time, a Hog-killer in Winter, his mother a tripe-washer, I mean a tripe-wifes maid. I had bought a Sute of old peeld Velvet, a long thred bare Cloak of *Segovia* Serge ; I wore my Sword so long, that the Chape unpaved the Stones of the streets as I walked,

In *Spaine*, and other Countries to make their Wines, they put their graps into great Tubs, into the which men goe bare legd and sometimes naked to tread the Grapes for to expresse the juice.

ked. When I came out of Prison, I would not goe see my Wife ; to give her a greater desire to see mee, and to bee revenged of the scorne that she had made of me. I beleevd undoubtedly, that seeing mee so well apparelled, shee would repent her selfe, and receive me with open armes ; but obstinate shee was, and obstinate shee remained. I found her in Child-bed, and newly married. When shee saw me, shee cryed out as if shee had been mad, Take from before me that ill watered Fish, that face of a new-pluckt Goose, or by the blessednesse of my dead Fathers Soule, if I rise, I will scratch out his eyes. I, with a great deale of flegme, answered her, Faire and softly (good Mistris Wag-taile) if you know me not for your Husband, nor I you for my Wife, let mee have my daughter, and as good friends as ever before, for I have got wherewith to marry her very honourably

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

rably. Me thought those twenty duc-  
kats should have beene like little *John*  
of Gods five Blankes ; who, as soone  
as hee had spent them, found five o-  
ther still in his Purse : but with mee,  
as I was *Lazarillo* of the Devill, it fell  
out otherwise, as shall appeare in the  
next Chapter. The Arch-Priest op-  
posed himselfe against my demand,  
saying, That she was not mine ; and  
for prooffe thereof, hee shewed mee  
the Church Booke for Christnings,  
which compared with the Register  
of Marriages, it appeared, that the  
Girle was borne foure moneths af-  
ter that I first carnally knew my  
Wife. My man *Thomas* fell downe,  
who till then had beene on horse-  
back, and I perceived the error in  
the which I had lived untill that time,  
beléeving her to be my daughter, that  
was not so. I shaked upon them the  
dust of my shoes, and washed my  
hands in token of innocencie, and of

Twelve  
Blankes  
make an  
English  
penny.

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parting

*The pursuit of the History*

parting for ever, and so I turned my back unto them, with as much comfort as if I had never knowne them. I went to seeke some of my friends, to whom I related the whole matter: they comforted me; which was a thing very easie for the to do. I would not return to the Office of common Cryer, for my Velvet had rooted out such petty thoughts. Going toward the gate cald *de Volagra* as I passed through that of *S. Iohn* of the Kings, I met with an old acquaintance of mine; who, after shee had saluted mee, told mee how that my Wife was growne more gentle, since shee had understood that I had money; particularly that, that *Gabacho* had as good as new dressed her from top to toe. I desired her to let mee understand the businesse: she did it, saying, that Master Arch-Priest and my Wife had entered one day into consultation, whether it were best to take me home againe



*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

againē to them, & turne out that *Sa-  
bacho*, bringing reasons of the one  
side and of the other. This their  
consulting was not so secrets, but  
that the new Husband heard of it :  
who dissembling, the next morning  
went out to work at the Olive trees,  
whither his Wife and mine at  
noone did goe to carry him his din-  
ner. He then bound her fast to a Tree,  
and having stripped her stark naked,  
gave her there above a hundred  
stripes ; and not content with that,  
made a bundle of ali her Cloathes,  
and pulling her Rings off her fingers,  
ranne away with all, leaving her  
bound, naked, and in a pittifull case :  
where (without doubt) she had died  
if the Arch-Priest had not sent to  
seeke her. She went on, saying, that  
shee beleaved without all peradven-  
ture, that if I sent but any one to en-  
treat them, they would receive  
mee to them as before : for she had

Q 2

heard

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heard my *Elvira* say, Wretched that I am, why did I not admit my good *Lazaro*, who was even as good as the good Bread ; not hard to please, not scrupulous, who suffered mee to doe whatsoever I would ? That was a touch, which turned me topsie-turvy, and made me resolve to follow the counsell of the good old Woman: Neverthelesse, I thought good first to conferre of it with my friends.

CHAP. VIII.

*How Lazaro pleaded against his Wife.*

**W**E men are somewhat a kin to laying Hens : for if wee minde to doe any good, we presently proclaime and kackle it abroad : but if evill, wee will not that a y one know it, lest they should disswade us from that, from the which it were good wee should be diverted.

I

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

I went to see one of my friends, and I found three together, for since I had money, they were multiplied as flies in the Fruit season. I told them my intention and desire, which was to go and live againe with my wife, and shun the flandering speeches of malevolent tongues; a knowne evill being better than an unknowne good. But they made the deed so hainous and odious unto me, telling me, that I was a man without either black in my eyes, or braines in my head, that I would goe to dwell with a Punke, a Cockatrice, a Cat amountaine, and lastly, the Devills Hackney (for so in *Toledo* do they call Priests Wenches.) They said such and so many things to mee, and so perswaded mee, that I determined neither to intreat her, nor to seeke to her. These my good friends (I would the Devill had had them) seeing that their counsell and perswasions had wrought with mee,

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proceeded

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proceeded farther, saying, That they counsell'd me (because I was so deare unto them) to take away the spots, and cleane the stainses of my reputation ; to stick close to it, and not let it fall to the ground : And therefore that I should exhibit a Complaint in Law against the Arch-Priest and my Wife ; for all should cost mee neither penny, nor farthing, they being (as they were) Officers of Justice. The one (who was an Attourney for lost Suites) offered mee a hundred duckets for my gettings. The other, as better experimented (being a Solliciter for Traders) told mee, That if hee were in my Coat, he would not give my gaines for two hundred. The third assured mee, That (as hee did well know, being, as hee was, a Sergeant) hee had seene other Cases, not so plaine, and a great deale doubtfuller than this, that had beene worth to the undertakers

an

an innumerable summe ; although  
he beleaved, that upon the first Writ  
the good *Domipe Bacchalaure* would  
fill my hands, and grease theirs,  
that wee might give over the Suit,  
desiring that I would returne againe  
to my Wife : which would be much  
more honourable and profitable for  
mee, than if I had made meanes un-  
to her. They so highly commended  
this businesse unto me, alluring  
mee with faire and great hopes, that  
they brought mee to what they  
would, not knowing how to answer  
their sophisticall arguments : how-  
beit, I know, that it was better to  
forgive and humble my selfe, than to  
prosecute things to the extremities,  
fulfilling the most difficult com-  
mandement of God, To love our  
enemies. And then, my Wife did  
never behave her selfe like an ene-  
my towards mee : contrariwise, by  
her I began to grow into credit,

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and to bee knowne of many, who would point at me with their finger, saying, There goes patient *Lazaro*: by her I began to have an Office, and Benefice. If the Daughter, which the Arch-Priest said was none of mine, were so or no; God, who searcheth the reines, best knowes; and it may bee, that as I may have beene mistaken, hee likewise might have beene deceived. As it may happen, that some one, who reading this simplicity of mine, will burst out into such laughter, as hee may chance to moisten the Linings of his Breeches; doth maintaine the children of some reverend Frier; and doth labour, sweat, and moyle, to leave them rich that begger him of his reputation; believing for certaine, that if there be one honest Woman in the World, it is his. And moreover, it may bee, that the Pedigree whereof thou doest boast (gentle Reader) as derived from

*Mars,*

of *Lazarillo de Tormes.*

*Mars*, is deducted from *Vulcan*. But leaving every one in his good opinion, all these good considerations did not withstand, but that I formed a complaint against the Arch-Priest, and against my Wife : and (having ready mony) within foure and twenty houres they put them into prison ; him, into the Arch-Bishops, and her into the common Jayle. The Lawyers did bid mee, not to regard the money that I did lay out for that businesse, by reason that I should recover it all againe of the *Domine*. So that, for to doe him more harme, and that the charges might be so much the greater, I gave them whatsoever they did aske mee. And because they smelt my Cash, as Bees doe honey, they were so carefull and diligent to runne to and fro, not making one idle step, that in lesse than eight dayes the Cause was very forward, and my Purse very backward. The Evidences

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res were produced with great facility, by reason that the Sergeants that had arrested them, had taken them napping; and even as they were in their shirts, had carried them to prison. The witnesses were many, and their depositions true. But my honest Attorney, Counsellor, and Register, perceiving my Purse to bee at an ebbe, beganne to grow so carelesse and lazie, that to have made them advance one step, they had needed more spurring than any Hackney Iade. When the Arch-Priest and his friends understood our great neglect, they beganne to crow up, and grow peart, greasing the hands and feet of their Agents; being like the weights of a Clock, which doe mount proportionally as the others goe downe. They tooke such a course, that within a fortnight after they came out of Prison upon Bayle; and within lesse than a week more,

by



*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

by meanes of false witnesses; they made poore *Lazaro* bee condemned to aske pardon, pay all charges, and to be banisht for ever out of *Toledo*. I demanded pardon, as it was most just hee should, who with twenty crownes had undertaken to pleade against him that measured them by Peckes. I gave all to my very shirt to helpe to pay the charges, going out with my bare skinne to my banishment. I saw my selfe in one instant, rich, at Law with one of the Powers of the holy Church of *Toledo* (an enterprise only for a Prince) respected of my friends, feared of mine enemies, and in the predicament of a Gentleman, that would not suffer an affront; and in the same instant I found my selfe cast (not out of the Earthly Paradise, my private nakednesse obumbrated with Figge-leaves, but) out of the place which I most loved and esteemed;

*The pursuit of the History*

med ; where I had received so much good entertainment, so many pleasures. My nuditie being covered with certaine Rags which I found upon a Dunghill, I betooke mee to the common comfort of the distressed ; believing, that since I was at the lowest of Fortunes Wheele, necessarily (at her turning) I was againe to rise. At that time I remembered what once I had heard my Master the blind-man say, (who when he did set himselfe preaching, would do wonders ; ) That all the men in the world did ascend & descend by the wheele of Fortune ; some following her motion, others going against it: this onely difference being betweene them ; that those that went with the streame, with the same swiftnesse that they did climbe up, with the same they do tumble down : and those that goe against it, if once they attained unto the top (though with great paines and labour) they maintained

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

maintained themselves there a long time. I, like the former, did run the smooth way of her wheele, but with such swiftnesse, that I scarce yet was come to the top, when she threw mee into the bottomlesse pit of all calamities. I saw my selfe a Begger, even of the most beggerly, having untill then beene one of a better stampe; and might well have said, Naked did I come into the world, and naked doe I goe out, I neither winne nor lose. In this pickle I tooke my way towards *Madrid*, craving the charitable benevolence of well disposed persons, as one that best could do it; for I was a Miller; to which Trade, I to returne by need was made. I made my mone to every one: some did pittie mee, others did laugh at mee, and others did give me their almes; so that having neither Wife nor daughter to maintaine, I had often meate and drink to spare: that yeare such store  
of

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of wine had beene gathered, that almost at every doore I came to they would aske mee if I would drinke, because they had no Bread to give mee; I never refused it: so that sometimes it hath been my chance, before breakfast, to have gulped up foure portles of Wine, wherewith I was more jocund and merry than Schoole-boyes upon an holy-day Eve. If I may speak what I think, the Beggers life is the only life; all the others doe not deserve that name. If rich men had but tried it, they would forsake their riches for it, as the ancient Philosophers did; who, for to enjoy it, left what they possessed; I say, for to enjoy it: for the Philosophers life and the Beggers is all one; onely they are distinguished, in that the Philosophers did forsake what they had for the love of it; and the Beggers without forsaking any thing, doe finde it. They did despise their wealth

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

wealth, that with lesse impediments they might contemplate both naturall and divine things, with the Celestiall motions: these, that they may (uncurbed) runne through the fields of their loose appetites. They did cast their goods into the Sea; these doe bury them in their stomackes. They did despise them as perishable and transitorie things; these doe not esteeme them, because they carry with them care and labour, things altogether out of their element. So that the Beggers life is quieter than either that of King, Emperour, or Pope. In it therefore did I meane to walke, as in a way most free, lesse dangerous, and very delightfull.

**CHAP.**

*The pursuit of the History*

CHAP. IX:

*How Lazaro did make himselfe  
a Porter.*

**T**Here is no Trade, Science, nor Art, but, to attaine to the perfection thereof, it is needfull to imploy the capacitie, of the best understanding in the world. You shall have a Shoemaker, that hath beene thirty yeeres at his Trade, if you bid him make you a paire of shooes broad at the toes, high of instep, neat, and without puckering; doe you thinke he will doe it? before hee make you a paire such as you desire, hee will spoyle your foot. Aske a Philosopher, why Flyes upon a white thing doe turne black, and contrariwise, upon a black, white; and you will make him blush, like a Maid upon her Marriage night, not knowing

*of Lazarrillo de Tormes.*

ing how to answer; or if he do to  
this, he will not to a thousand other  
fooleries. It was my chance to meete,  
neere to *Mescas*, an Arch-Rogue, Mescas, a  
Citie be-  
twene  
Madrid &  
Toledo.  
and by his countenance perceiuing  
what he was, I paced towards him  
as to an Oracle, to enquire of him  
how I might governe my selfe in  
my new life, without bringing my  
selfe within the compasse of the  
Law. Hee answered me, That if I  
meant cleanly to come off, and  
without danger, his counsell was,  
that I should ioyne to the life of an  
Hypocrite; that is to say, that  
though I were a Rogue in professi-  
on, yet (not to seeme so) I should  
giue my selfe to some employ-  
ment, as to skulkerie in a Kitchen;  
to cry Broomes, to sweep Chim-  
neyes to scrape Trenchers; or to  
carry Burthens from one place to  
another; which would serue as a  
Buckler to cover my Beggery:

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Hee

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Hee told me moreover, that by reason that hee had not done so since these twenty yeeres that he followed that Occupation, he had the day before received two hundred stripes as a Rogue and vagabond. This aduise pleased me, and I followed his counsell. As soone as I came to *Madrid*, I got me a Porters Cord, with the which I quartered my selfe in the midst of the market place, with more content then a starued Cat with Gibblets. And in good time, and happy houre, the first that did set me to worke, was a Maid (God forgive me, for I lye) of some eighteene yeeres of age, that simpered more then a new veyled Nun? shee bad me follow her, and led me through so many streetes, that I thought she had undertaken it as a taske, or that shee did it to abuse me: at length wee came to an house, which, by the Wicket therof, great Court,



*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

Court, and the Wenches that danced there; I knew to be the publike Brothell. Then did she bring mee into her Cell, where she asked me, if I would be payed for my paines before wee went out: I answered her, that there was no haste, untill we came to the place where I was to carry my burthen, which I tooke vp, and set forward to the Gate of *Guadalachara*, where shee told me she was to take Waggon, to goe to the Faire of *Nagera*. The Fardle was light, most part thereof being nothing but little Sawcers, Bottles with Painting, and Waters. As we went, I understood how shee had beene eight yeeres of that Trade. The first that did set mee abroach (said she) was the Father Rector of the Iusuits of *Seuil*, where I was borne; who did it with so great deuotion, that from that day to this, I have beene very deuour.

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*The pursuit of the History*

Those wo-  
men are  
called Be-  
atz.

Hee recomended mee to one of the holy Women, denoted to their Order, with whom I remained a-boue fixe moneths, well provided of all things necessary. I was drawne thence by a Captaine, and so have roused up and dowue from one place to another, & am where thou seest. And would to God I had never departed out of the protection of that good father, who entertained me as his Daughter, and loved mee as his Sister Finally, I haue beene constrained to follow an Occupation, to get my living. With this discourse we came to the waggon, which was ready to set forth. I discharged my burden into it, & praying her to pay me for my labor, the Rag-taile answered, That I will very willingly; and with that, lifting up her hand, she gave me such a Box on the eare, that she felled me to the ground, saying, art thou such an

*of Lazarillo de Tormes*

an Assle, as to aske money of one of my profession; Did I not bid thee, before thou camest out of the house of fellowship, to pay thy selfe, if thou wouldst, vpon me? With that (as nimbly as a Grasse-hopper) she leaped into the waggon, and away she went, and left me fretted at the heart, and as blanke as a Bell-founder, not knowing what ayled me. only I considered with my selfe, that if the progresse of my new Trade did follow the beginning, I should thriue fairly at the yeers end. Vpon my departure thence, there came another waggon from *Alcala de Henares*; out of the which, the passengers (who were all Whores, Scholars, and friers) being alighted, one of the order of *S. Francis*, asked me, if I would doe him that charity, as to carry his Trusse to his Couent. I answered him with cheerfullnesse, that I would, for I perswaded my selfe,

A Citie in  
Spaine

*The pursuit of the History*

that hee would not coozen me, as that Drab had done, therefore I tooke it up, and it was so heauy, that I could scarce carry it: yet for the hope of my good pay, I strayed my selfe. Being come to the Cloyster very weary, because it was farre, the Friar tooke his packe, and saying, For God sake be it done, went in, and shut the doore after him. I waited there untill he should come to pay me; but seeing that he did tarry long, I knocked at the Gate. The Porter came forth, and asked me what I would have; I told him, My payment for the burthen which I had brought. He answered me, that I should goe in Gods name, for they never payd any thing, and so locked the doore, charging me to knocke no more, by reason it was a time of silence; for if I did, he would give me an hundred lacings with his knotty girdle.

My

*of Lazarrillo de Tormes.*

My courage was cooled, A poore man that stood at the Gate said to me; Brother, you may well goe your way, for these Fathers doe handle no money, for they live altogether upon other mens dishes. Let them live upon what they can (said I,) they shall pay me for my paines, or I will be no longer *Lazarrillo*; and thereupon I fell a knocking with great anger. The Lay-Brother came forth with greater, and without any farther complement gave me such a push, that he threw me backward to the ground as if I had beene a mellow Peare; and kneeling upon me, he gave me halfe a dozen such punches with his knee, and as many flammes with his girdle, that he left mee all bruised, as if the Clock-Tower of *Saragosa* had fallen upon mee. I lay there stretched above halfe an houre, not being able to arise; I  
confide-

*The pursuit of the History*

considered my evill fortune, and the strength of that irregular Frier so ill employed, which had been fitter to serve the King our Lord and Master, then to devour the almes ordained for the poore; though indeed they bee scarce good for any employment, being idle and lazie-packs, as the Emperour *Charles* the fift gave well to understand: for when the Generall of *S. Francis* his Order, offered two and twentie thousand Friers to assist him in his wars, none above forty, nor under two & twenty; the invincible Emperour answered, that hee would not have them, by reason that hee should have needed every day two and twenty thousand flesh-pots, intimating thereby, that they are fitter by farre for the Kitchen, than for any labour or service. God forgive me for since that day I have so abhorred those Lay-clergie-men, that  
me

me thought when I saw them, I did see Droanes of a Bee-hive, or sponges of the fat of the porridge-pot. I was minded to give over my office, but I expected the revolution of the 24. houres, \* as the custome is for those that die of sudden death.

\* Those that die in Spaine of sud. an death are kept 24. houres before they be buried.

CHAP. X.

*How Lazaro met with an old Band, and what happened unto him.*

**W**Hake & dead for hunger, I went little by little up the street, & passing through the Barly-place, I met with an old mumbler, that had more tusks than a wilde Boare, who came to me, & asked me, if I would cary a Trunk for her to a friend of hers not farre from thence, and shee would give me foure quartros. I had no sooner heard her, but I gave God thanks, that from so filthy a mouth as hers should proceed so sweet a speech

Foure quartros make a Royall, which is six pence.

as

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as that, Shee would give me foure  
Quartos I told her, Yes, with a ve-  
ry good will; though that very  
good will was more to finger the  
foure Quartos, than to carry the  
burden, having at that time more  
need to be carried my selfe, than to  
carry. I tooke up the Trunke with  
much adoe, by reason it was great  
and heauy: the good woman bad  
me carry it faire and softly, because  
that within it were bottles of Wa-  
ters, which shee esteemd very much.  
I answered her, that she should not  
need to feare that, I would goe soft-  
ly enough; for though I would  
hane done otherwise, it had beene  
impossible for me, being so hungry  
that hardly I could put one foot  
before another. We came at length  
to the house where wee did carry  
the Trunke, the which they verie  
gladly receiued, especially a young  
Gentlewomen, plumpe and round-  
faced



four faced ( would all the cattell of my  
a ve-bed were such, my belly being full)  
very who with a chearefull countenance  
the said, that she would keepe it in her  
the Closet. I carried it thither, and the  
more old Woman gaue her the Key of  
an to it, desiring her to keepe it untill she  
with returned from *Segovia*, where shee  
great was going to visite a Kinswoman  
bad of hers, hoping to come backe a-  
ause gaine within foure dayes. Then  
Wa- imbracing her, she tooke leane of  
ach. her, whispering her in the eare I  
not know not what, which made the  
of- Damesell blush like a rose; (and al-  
uld though I then did like her very  
ene well, I should haue liked her farre  
gry better, had the vacuity of my guts  
oot beene stuffed with good provender)  
gh she tooke likewise leane of all those  
ry of the house, desiring the Father  
rie and Mother of the Mayde to ex-  
ng cuse her boldnesse and importunity;  
d- who told her, that their house was  
d at

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at her command. shee gave mee  
four Quartos; bidding mee in  
mine eare the next morning verie  
early to come to her house, and shee  
would make mee earne as much  
more. I departed more jocund  
than a Shrove-tuesday, or a Mid-  
somers Eve. I stopped with three  
of them, keeping one to pay for my  
lodging. I then fell to consider the  
power and vertue of money; for at  
the instant that the old woman had  
given mee those few Quartos, I  
found my selfe lighter than the  
winde, more valiant than *Hector*, &  
stronger than *Hercules*. O Money,  
it is not without reason that most  
men doe hold thee for their God:  
thou art the cause of all good, and  
the procurer also of all euill. Thou  
art the inuentor of all Arts, and the  
maintainer of them in their per-  
fection. For thee are Sciences had  
in estimation, and with thee are o-  
pinions

*of Lazarillo de Tormes*

pinions defended. By thee cities are  
fortified, and againe by thee their  
strong towres are made leuell with  
the ground. By thee are kingdomes  
established, and by thee in the same  
instant overthrowne. Thou art the  
upholder of vertue, and againe the  
destroyer thereof. By thee Ladies  
do maintaine themselves chaste, &  
by thee many that are so, become  
others. Lastly, there is nothing in  
the world, be it never so hard, but  
to thee is easie; nothing so hidden,  
but thou canst penetrate; no hill so  
lofty, but thou canst pull downe; no  
dale so low, but thou canst eleuate.  
The next morning I went to the  
old Womans house, according  
as shee had appointed mee, who  
bade mee goe with her to fetch  
againe the Trunke which I had  
carried the day before. Beeing  
come to the house, shee told the  
Master and Mistris, that shee came  
for

*The pursuit of the History*

for her Trunke, by reason that upon the way to *Segovia* (about a mile from *Madrid*) shee had met with her Kinswoman, who came with the same intention (that shee went) to see her, and that therefore shee did need it instantly, to have out some cleane linnen that was in it, to give her entertainment. The Maide of a new stampe returned her the Key, kissing and imbracing her with more affection than at the first time; and after shee had whispered her againe in the eare, they helped up with the Trunke, which seemed unto me farre lighter than the day before, because my bellic was better provided. Coming downe the stayres; it was my chance to meete with I know not what stumbling block, which I thinke the Diuell of purpose had laid in my way, that made mee stumble and tumbled downe  
Trunke

Tru  
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Trunke and all to the bottome of the stayers, where stood the Father and the mother of the simple and kind hearted Wench. I broke my Nose and short Ribs with the fall, and the damned Trunke, with the Knocks and Ioults, flew open. in it there appeared a young Gallant, without his Cloake, his Rapier and Dagger at his side, in a greene satin Sute, with a feather of the same colour, a paire of Carnation Garters and Roses, Crimson Silk Stockings, and white open shooes: who rising up very mannerly, & making a low reverence, straight went out of doores. They were so amazed with that suddain Vision, that they looked one upon another like so many Matachines or Anticks. But when they were come to themselves, they called in all haste two sonnes that they had, & with great storming, declared the matter unto them;

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them: Who presently taking their Swords, and crying, Kill, Kill, went out to seeke the young Mad-cap. But hee had possted away in such haste, that it was impossible for them to overtake him. The Father and Mother (who all this while had remained below stayres) shutting the doores fast, went up, thinking to revenge themselves upon the Baud: but shee that had heard the noyse, and knowne the cause thereof, had already with her Scholler in the O. Q. P. taken the ayre at a backe-doore. When they found themselves galled, and pretented; they came downe and let flie at me, I being so sore, and bruised, that I could not stir; for otherwise I had waited upon him, for whose sake I was so ill handled. The two brothers returned sweating, and out of breath, swearing and vowing, That since they had not overtaken the villain;

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

their haine, they would kil their sister and  
went the Baud. But when they were told;  
d-cap, that they had made an escape at the  
such Back-side, then they fell a blasphem-  
e for ming, cursing, and swearing. The one  
rather said, Why doe I not meet now with  
e had the Devill himselfe, with an infer-  
etting nall Gite, that I might make ha-  
nking vock of them as of so many Flyes ?  
the Come Devill, Come. But now that  
the I call thee, it is certaine, that where-  
ere-soever thou art, thou dost feare my  
oller anger, and darest not appeare before  
at a me. O had I but seen that Coward,  
ound with my very breath I had carried  
red; him so farre, as no body should ever  
me, have heard any newes of him. The  
at I other went on, saying, Had I but o-  
had vertaken him, I would not have left  
e I one peece of him so big as his eare :  
ro- but if he be in the world, nay, though  
of he be not, hee shall not escape out of  
that my hands ; for I would plough him  
vil- up, were he hid in the Centre of the  
ne, S Earth.

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Earth. These and such like brags and threatnings did they thunder out, whilst poore *Lazaro* was expecting that all the storme should light upon him ; but yet I stood in more feare of tenne or twelve Boyes that were there, than of those Braggadillos. In the end, both great and small in a cluster fell upon my Iacket ; the one kicked me, the other thumped mee ; some pulled me by the haire, others boxed mee about the eares. My feare was not vaine : for the Boyes thrust great Pinnes into my Buttocks up to the head, which made mee skreek unto the heavens ; the slaves did so pinch me, that they made mee at noone-day see a thousand Starres. Some said, let us kill him ; others, It is better to throw him in the Privy. The hammering of mee was such, that they seemed Thrashers in a Barne, or Hammers of a Fulling-Mill, by reason of the  
perpe-



*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

perpetuall Motion. At length seeing mee breathlesse, they desisted from beating, but not from threatening mee. The Father as most ripe, or most rotten, commanded them to let me alone ; and that if I would tell them truly who was the robber of their honour, they should not doe me any more harme : but I could not satisfie their desire, because I knew not who he was, having never seene him before hee came out of the Trunke. Seeing that I answered them nothing, they began a new to torment mee. There was the wayling, there the weeping for my mishap, there was the sighing, there was the cursing of my crosse fortune. But when I perceived, that continually they found new wayes to persecute mee, I prayed them as well as I could to forbear me, and that I would tell them all the businesse. They did so ; and I told

S 2      them

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them without any omission, what had passed ; but they would give no credit to the truth. Feeling the storme to continue, I determined to coozen them, if it were possible, & therefore I promised to informe them, who the Malefactor was ; whereupon they left thrashing of mee, promising me wonders. They asked me his name, & where hee liyed. I answered, that I knew it not ; and lesse, that of the Street wherein hee dwelt : but that, if they would carry mee (for it was impossible for mee to goe, they had so misused me) I would shew them his house. That pleased them well, and therefore they gave me a little Wine, with the which I came againe to my selfe : then (being well armed) two of them tooke me under the armes, like a *French Lady*, & led me through *Madrid*. Some that did see mee, said, They carry that man to Prison ; others, to the Hospitall : but none did  
hit

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

hit the mark. I went amazed, and astonish-  
ed, not knowing either what to  
say, or what to doe ; for I durst not  
cry out for helpe, lest they should  
complaine of mee to the Iustices,  
whom I feared more than death it  
selfe : and to run away was impossi-  
ble, not onely by reason of my former  
ill usage, but also for being betweene  
the Father, Sonnes, and Kinsfolkes,  
who for that purpose had joyned  
themselves, eight or nine together,  
armed at all points, like so many S.  
Georges. Wee crossed many Streets,  
and went through many Lanes, not  
knowing where I was, or whither I  
did lead them. At length wee came  
to the Sun-Gate, and downe a Street  
right over-against it, I perceived a  
Gallant that came tripping it upon  
the toes, his Cloake jerked under one  
arme, a peece of a Glove in one hand,  
and a Gilly-flower in the other, his  
arme keeping time with his foot, so

*The pursuit of the History*

that one would have taken him for  
the cousin germane to the Duke  
of *Infantado* : hee made a thousand  
severall faces and odde countenances.  
I knew him at the instant to be the  
Squire my Master, who had stollen  
away my Cloathes at *Murcia* : and  
without doubt, some Saint or other  
(for I had not left one unprayed  
to in all the Letany) had brought  
him thither for my redemption.  
As I saw the occasion offer it selfe  
so faire, I caught hold of it by  
the fore-top, and with one stone I  
determined to kill two Birds, that is  
to bee revenged of that bragging  
Cheater, and to free my selfe from  
those hang-men. Which to bring  
to passe, I said unto them, Gentle-  
men, looke about you, for yonder  
commeth the Gallant, that hath  
robbed you of your honour, who  
hath only changed his Apparell.  
They blinded with rage and anger,  
without

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

without any further discourse, asked mee which was hee. I pointed him out unto them : Whereupon they rushed upon him, and taking him by the Collar, threw him to the ground, where they kicked and cuffed him out of all measure. One of the young striplings, Brother to the Gentlewoman, would have run him through with his Sword, but that his father hindered him; and called Officers to their helpe, they bound him hand and foot. When I perceived the Cards to bee thus shuffled, and that they were all busie, as well as I could, I began to shew them a faire paire of heeles, and went and hid my selfe. My honest squire (who knew me) thinking they were some of my acquaintance, that demanded my Apparell, did cry out unto them, Let mee alone, Let me alone, and I will pay for two Sutes. But they stopped

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his mouth with good blowes with their fists; and all bloody, bruised, and broken-headed, carried him to Prison: And I tooke my leave of *Madrid*, cursing both the Occupation, and the first inventor of it.

CHAP. XI.

*How Lazaro parted from Madrid, to goe into his owne Countrey: and what happened unto him upon the way.*

**I** Was minded to put my selfe, on my way, but I found my strength farre unequall to my courage; for which cause, I remained yet some dayes in *Madrid*; which I passed well enough, by reason, that helping my selfe with Crutches (wirthout which I was not able to goe) I went begging from doore to doore, and from Covent to Covent, till I found my selfe strong enough, and able to travel. I made

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

made the more haste, for a thing that I heard related by a Begger, who, with others, was lowling himselfe in the Sunne. It was the historie of the Trunke, as already I have told it: adding, that the man whom they had imprisoned, thinking it had beene he of the Trunke, had prooved the contrary; for at the very instant that the businesse hapned, he was at his lodging, and no body thereabouts had seene him with other apparell than that wherewith they had taken him: but that notwithstanding he had been exposed to the publike shame of a Vagabond, and banished *Madrid*; Hee told also, how the Gentlewomans friends did seeke for a Porter, that had dressed that Messe of Knavery, swearing to make a Syve of his skin with their Rapiers, if ever they met him. I opened my eyes, to prevent this accident, clapping a patch upon one of them, and shaving my beard  
like

*The pursuit of the History*

like a Monke ; for I assured my selfe that in this disguise , the Mother that bare mee, could not have knowne me. I departed from *Madrid*, with intention to goe to *Teiases* , to try if (being new moulded ) Fortune would mistake mee. I passed by the *Escuriall*, a Building which doth speake the greatnesse of the Monarch that did erect it, (for it was not yet altogether finished) and is such, that it may bee reckoned among the marvels of the World ; though it cannot bee said , that the pleasant situation hath been a motive to build it there, the ground being very barren and hilly : but well, the temperatnesse of the ayre ; which in Summer is such, that removing onely to the shade, the Heat is not troublesome, nor the Cold offensive, but exceeding wholesome. Within lesse than two miles from thence, I met with a company of Gipseyes,



of *Lazarillo de Tormes*.

Gipsies, lodged in an old decayed house : who as soon as they perceived mee a farre off, thought I was some one of their Troupe, for my attire did promise no lesse : but comming neerer, they saw their error, and were somewhat daunted with my presence, because (as farre as I could perceive) they held a Consultation, or were debating an Election. They told mee, that that was not the right way to *Salamanca*, but to *Valledolid*. Seeing my businesse bid not constrain me to goe rather to one place than to another, I told them, that since it was so, I would see that Cicie, before I went into my Countrey. One of the ancientest asked mee, whence I was ? and understanding that I was of *Telares*, he invited me to dinner for neighbourhoods sake, for hee was of *Salamanca*. I accepted his offer ; and afterwards they desired mee  
to

*The pursuit of the History*

to relate unto them my life, and adventures. I did it, without any farther intreaty, as briefly as things of such moment could permit. When I came to speak of the Tub, and what had hapned unto me in an Inne at *Madrid*, I made them laugh extreemly, especially two Gipseyes, a Man and a Woman, who could scarce stand for laughing. I began to be ashamed, and to blush, when the old Gipsey, my Countrey man, who had taken notice thereof, said unto mee ; Be not out of countenance, Brother: for these Gentles doe not laugh at your life ; being such, as it rather deserveth admiration than laughter; of which, since you have given us so full an account, it is reasonable, that wee pay you in the same Coyne. Wherefore, resting upon your prudence, as you have done upon ours, if the company will give mee leave, I will tell you the occasion of their laughter. Every one answered,

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

ed, that hee was well content ; for they knew that his great discretion and experience would not suffer him to goe beyond the limits of reason. Know then (said he) that those two whom you see yonder, almost out of breath with laughing, are the Priest and the Damsell, that leaped naked out at the Window, when the inundation of your Tub had like to have drowned them ; who (if they please) will tell you how and by what means they have attained to this state of life. The Gipsy offered her selfe very willingly, and craving the benevolence of the worthy Auditorie, with a loud, but gentle and grave voyce, she thus began her owne story : The day that I came out, or (to say better) that I leaped out of my Fathers House, they carried mee to Prison, and put mee in a chamber, rather darke than cleane, and farre more stinking than handsome. As for the worshipfull  
Master

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Master *Vvez*, who is here present, and may disprove mee if I speake untruth, they clapped him up in the Dungeon, till hee told them that hee was a Priest : wherefore they presently sent him to the under Bishop, who very sharply reprehended him for having beene so faint-hearted, as for a little Water to have leaped out at a Window before all the World, and given such a scandall: But with promise that hee made him, to bee more wary and circumspect another time, and to doe his businesse in such sort, as the ground it selfe should not bee privie to his ingresse and egressse, hee let him goe, enjoyning him for penance, That for three dayes hee should not sing Masse. I remained in the custody of the chiefe Keeper or Captaine of the Prison ; who being youthfull and lusty, and I young, and not unhandsome, did whatsoever hee could  
to

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

to please mee. The Prison to mee was a Palace, and Garden of delights. My Father and my Mother, though greatly displeased with my loosenesse, did what they could to set mee loose, but all in vaine, for the Captaine did worke all possible meanes to detaine mee still in his keeping. In the meane time, Master Licentiat, here present, went round about the Prison, like a setting Dogge, to see if hee could speake with mee : which at length he did, by the meanes of a Baud, the best of her Profession ; who dressed him in the attire of one of her Maids, with a Petticoat and Waistcoat, and a Muffler before his Beard, as if hee had had the Mumpes : at this interview was the plot laid for my escape. The night following, there was great feasting and revelling at the Earle of *Miranda's* House, and in the end the Gipseys : were to dance ;  
with

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with whom *Canil* (for so is there verend *Vrvex* now called) consorted himsele, to have their helpe in his pretences: which they so well executed (thanks to his wit and industry) that we enjoy both our desired liberty, and his company, that is the best in the world. The after-noon before the Feast, the Captaine kept more fidling about mee, than a Cat about a Tripe-Wife; and made mee more protestations and promises, than a passenger in a storme at Sea: all which (as bound thereunto) I encountred againe with the like. Hee desired me to aske him whatsoever I would, and hee would grant it me, so it were not to be deprived of my presence. I thanked him very much, telling him, that to want his, would be to me the greatest mischance that ever could happen unto me. Perceiving I had hit the marke, I intreated him to carry mee that night (since well he might) to the  
Earles

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

Earles house, to see the dancing. This thing seemed very hard unto him; neverthelesse, not to goe back from his word, and because the little blinde Archer had wounded him with one of his Arrowes, he did promise it me. Now was the High Sheriffe in love with me, and had given charge to all the Guards, and to the Captaine himselfe, to give me good entertainment, & to have a care that no body should carry me forth. To convey me therefore more closely to the Revels, hee attyred mee like a Page: my Doublet and Hose were of greene Damask layed with Gold Lace; the Cloake of Velter, of the same colour, lined through with yellow Sattin; a Bonnet with a Herons-top and feather, and a Diamond Hatband; a Ruffe with seaming Lace, and Peakies; Straw-colour Stockins; great Garters and Roses, sutable to mine Apparell; a paire of White pinckt Shooes; with

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a

*The pursuit of the History*

a guilded Rapier and Dagger, according to the fashion. We came to the Banquetting Roome, and found there a great number of Ladies and Gentlemen ; the Gentlemen joviall, and in good equipage ; the Ladies gallant, and beautifull : and also many muffled up in their Cloakes, and Women with Veyles. *Canil* was dressed like a Roarer ; and seeing me, came straightwayes on the other side of mee ; so that I was betweene him and the Captaine. The Revelling began ; where I saw things, which because they belong not to what I intend to speake of, I will omit. But at length the Gipseys came to dance, and shew trickes : whereupon two of them grew towards, and so from one thing to another, the one gave the other the Lye ; who answered him with a slash with his Sword over the head, that made him bleed like an Ox. The company, that till then had



*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

had thought they had beene in jest, began to bee amazed, and to cry out, Help, help. Some Officers and Sergeants that were there, began to bestir themselves. Every one put his hand to his Sword, and I drew mine; but when I saw it naked in my hand, I fell a quivering for very feare of it. They layed hold on the offender and there wanted not some, who (being there set for the purpose) said, That the Captaine of the Prison was there, to whose charge they might deliver him. The High Sheriffe called him out, to give him charge o<sup>t</sup> the Murtherer. He would willingly have carried mee along with him: but fearing lest I should be knowne, hee bade mee with-draw my selfe into a corner which hee shewed mee, and not to stirre from thence, untill hee returned. When I saw the Crab-lowe had let goe his hold, I tooke my *Dominie Canil* (who was still at my elbow)

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*The pursuit of the History*

bow) by the hand, and in two strides wee got out into the street, where we found one of these Gentlemen, who brought us to their *Rendez vous*. When the wounded man (whom already every one thought to be dead) imagined in himselfe that wee were escaped, hee rose up and said, Gentlemen, the jest shall end here, for I am in good health ; and what hath beene done, hath been onely to make sport to the company. And with that hee pulled off the Cap he had on, under the which (upon an Iron Skull) was an Oxes bladder full of blood for that purpose ; which, with the blow that the other had given him, had beene broken, and so spilt. Every one fell a laughing at the jest, except the Captaine, who found it to bee a troublesome one: for comming to the place appointed, and not finding me there, he began to seek up and down the roome, till that asking an old Gipsy

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

Gipsy woman, if shee had not seene a Page with such and such tokens, she (that knew the whole drift) told him, Yea, and that shee had heard him say as hee went out, holding a man by the hand, Let us goe retire our selves to *S. Philips*. Hee went thither in all haste, for to seeke mee, but to little purpose ; for hee went towards the East, and we fled towards the West. Before we left *Madrid*, I had changed my Cloathes for others, and had two hundred Ryals to boot : I sold the *Hat-bád* for foure hundred Crownes, whereof I gave two hundred to these Gentlemen, for our entrance into their company ; for so had *Canil* covenanted with them. This is the whole discourse of my liberty : If Master *Lazaro* doth desire any thing else, let him command, and he shall be served, according as his worthy and joviall presence doth deserve. I thanked her for her courtesie ; and with as much

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as I was able, I took my leave of them all. The good old man brought mee a mile on my way : and as we went, I asked him if all those that were there, were Gipseys, borne in *Egypt*. Hee answered me, The Devill a one there was in all *Spaine* ; but that they were all Priests, Friers, Nuns, or Theeves that had broke out of Prison, or out of their Cloysters : but yet that among them all, those that came from Monasteries, were the greatest and most notorious Villaines, changing a contemplative life into an active. He returned to his company, and I on horseback upon S. *Francis* his Mule, followed my way to *Valledolid*.

C H A P.

CHAP. XII.

*What hapned to Lazaro in a Tauerne  
two miles off from Valledolid.*

**A**Ll the way long did I nothing but thinke upon my good Gipseys, their life, customes and behaviour. I wondered much, how the Magistrates would suffer publike Theeves to goe so freely and openly; all the World knowing, that to filch and steale, is their onely Imployment & Occupation. They are the Refuge and Receptracle of all Rogues; the Sanctuarie for Apostataes, and the Schoole of all mischief. But chiefly I did marvell, that Friers should forsake their sweet and quiet life, for the miserable and toilesome life of a Gipsy. Neither had I beleevved to bee true, what the old Gipsy  
T 4 told

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told me ; had he not showne mee, halfe a mile from the place where they were lodged, behinde the Wall of a Close, a Man and a Woman Gipsy ; he frolick and lustie, she plump and comely ; hee not parched with the Sunne, shee not blasted with the unkindnesse of the Weather: The one sung a Verse of the Psalmes of *David*; the other answered with another. The good old man assured mee, that they were a Frier and a Nunne ; who, not above eight dayes before, were come to their Congregation, with a desire to make profession of a most austere life. I followed my way, untill I came to a Taverne two miles off from *Valledolid*; at the doore whereof, I found sitting the old Woman of *Madrid*, and the young Gentlewoman, of whom I have spoken. There came out a young Gallant, to bid them come in to Dinner. They could not know me, I was so disguised, with my Patch still upon

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

upon my Eye, and my Cloathes right  
Beggars Cut : but I knew my selfe to  
be that *Lazaro* that was come out of  
the Grave, that had beene so costly  
unto mee. I went in after them, and  
stood before them, to see if they  
would give me somewhat : but it had  
beene a hard matter for them so to  
do, having not enough for themselves,  
for the worthy Gentleman, that had  
played the Steward, had beene so li-  
berall, that for himselfe, his Sweet-  
heart, and the old Baud, hee had  
caused to be made ready a little Hogs  
Liver, with a sawce to whet their ap-  
petite, all which, I could easily have  
gobled up, in lesse than two Morrels.  
The Bread was as black as the Table-  
Cloth, which seemed like the Cassock  
of some Penitent, or the Maulking  
wherewith a Oven is made cleane.  
Eat, my Love (said the Gentleman)  
for this a diet for a Prince. The Baud  
fell so roundly, and said not one word

The ghost-  
ly Fathers  
enjoyne to  
some for a  
penance,  
to wear  
black  
Buckram  
Cassocks  
with a  
Wax Can-  
dle in  
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accompa-  
nie others  
that doe  
whip them-  
selves.

for

*The pursuit of the History*

for feare of losing time, because shee saw that shee was not to goe often to the dish ; which they began to lick, and rubbe so hard, that (it being of Earth) they scraped away all the Varnish. Their pitifull and short Meale being ended, (which had rather provoked, than in any manner asswaged their hunger) the gentle Lover made his excuse, saying, That the Taverne was unprovided. I seeing that there was nothing there for mee, asked the Hoste, If hee had any thing to eat? who answered me. According to the pay; and would have given me a little Hog-Hassel: but I asked him, if he had nothing else? he offered me a Quarter of Kidde, that the amorous Gallant had refused because it was too deare. I thought to come over them with a Bravado, & so I bad him give it me. I went and sate downe with it at the lower end of the Table; where, it was a sport to see  
how



*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

how they looked upon mee. Every bit that I put into my mouth, did draw six eyes after it ; for those of the Lover, of the Gentlewoman, and of the Baud, were nayled to what I did eat. How comes it to passe (said the Damselfell) that yonder Begger doth eat a Quarter of Kidde, and we three have had nothing but a poore peece of fryed Liver ? The Gallant answered, That he had asked the Hoste for Partridges, Capons, or hens, & that he had told him, that he had nothing else to give him. I, that knew how the matter went ( and that for feare of spending, or for not having wherewithall, hee had dieted them ) did notwithstanding hold my peace, and ply my victuals. I thinke in my conscience, that that Kiddes meat was a Loadstone : for when I least tooke heed, I found them all three round about my Dish. The shamelesse and brazen-faced Wench tooke a peece,  
and

*The pursuit of the History*

and said, Brother by your leave ; but before she had it, it was already in her mouth. The old Mumbler replied, Do not take away the poore Wretch his meat from him. I will not take it away (answered she) for I doe meane to pay him very well for it; and in saying so, shee fell to it with such haste and greedinesse, that it seemed shee had not eaten in six dayes before. The good Marron tooke a bit, to know how it tasted. What (saith my Gallant) doe you like it so well ? and therewith pops mee a peece in his mouth as bigge as his fist. But I perceiving them to grow somewhat too bold, tooke all that was in the Dish, and made but one mouthfull of it; which was so great, that I could neither get it backward nor forward. Being in this perplexity, there came to the Taverne gate 2. horsemen, armed with coats of Mayle, Head-peeses, and Bucklers, ech of them carrying

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

carrying a Petronell at his side, and another at their Saddlebow : who alighting, gave their Mules to a Footman, and asked the Hoste if he had any thing to eat ? he answered them, That he had wherewith to give them good entertainment ; and therefore, if it pleased their Worships, they might walke into the Hall, whilst Meat was a making ready. The old Woman, who hearing the noyse, was gon out to the doore, & came straight in againe, with her two hands upon her face, bending and bowing her body a thousand times like a new hooded Monke, speaking as out of a Trunke, and wresting and wringling now one side, then the other, as if she had beene in Child-birth, as low and as well as she could, shee said, Wee are all undone ; for the Brothers of *Clara* (for so was the Gentlewoman called) are at the Gate. The young Wench hearing this, began to take  
on,

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on, and to pull her selfe by the haire,  
& to thumb and mis-use her selfe, as if  
shee had been out of her wits. But the  
young Gallant, that was stout & cou-  
ragious, comforted her, and bade her  
bee of good cheare; and that where he  
was, shee needed not to feare any  
thing. I (who all this while had still  
the great peece of Kid in my mouth)  
when I understood that those Swash-  
bucklers were there, was like to  
have died for feare; and had died in-  
deed, had it not been that my Throat  
being stopped with the Mear,  
my Soule could find no passage to  
get out, and therefore was con-  
strained to returne againe into her  
place. The two roaring Boyes came  
in; and as soone as they perceived  
their sister, and the old Hagge, they  
cryed out, Here they bee; Now we  
have them, Kill, Kill them. At this up-  
roare, I was so affrighted, that I fell to  
the ground; and with the fall, I cast

out

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

out the Kidde that did choake mee.  
The two Women put themselves be-  
hinde the Gentlman, as Chickens doe  
under the hennes wings, when they  
runne away from a Kite. Hee with a  
brave spirit drew out his Rapier, and  
went towards them with such fury,  
that for very feare they stood still like  
two Statues, their words being frozen  
in their mouths and their Swords in  
their Scabards. He asked them what  
they would, or what they sought ?  
and with that comming to the one,  
hee pulled out his Sword, holding the  
point thereof at his eyes, and of his  
owne at the eyes of the other, so  
that at the least motion of the  
Swords, they quaked and trem-  
bled like Leaves upon a Tree: The  
old Woman and the Sister seeing the  
two *Branachios* so heartlesse, came to  
them, and disarmed them. The Host  
came in at the noyse that we made  
(for I was already got up, and had  
one

*The pursuit of the History*

one of them by the Beard) not unlike to the counterfeit Bulls of my Country, which children at first sight doe flie from ; but growing bolder by little and little, and perceiving that they are not wilde, nor what they seeme to be, doe come so neere them, that (having lost all feare) they cast and hang upon them a thousand Dish-clothes. So I seeing that those scar-crowes were not what they appeared to be, tooke hart at grasse, and set upon them with as much boldnesse as my former feare could affoord me. What is the matter here, said the host? What stirre is this in my house? The Woman, the Gentleman, and I began to cry out, They are Theeves, that come following us, for to rob us. The Host that saw the without their weapons, and as with the victory, said, What? Theeves in my house? And thereupon layd hands upon them, & with our helpe, did put them into a Vault

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

Vault under ground, notwithstanding any thing they could alledge to the contrarie. Their man, who by this time had given meat to their Mules, comming in & asking for his Masters, was by the Host sent to keepe them company. Then did hee take th-ir Cloakebagges, Mayles, and other furniture, and locked them up; dividing their Weapons between us, as if they had beene his owne. Hee asked nothing of us for his Meat, that wee might be Witneses in the Information which he had made against them; upon the which, as an Officer of the Inquisition (which he said hee was) and as Iustice of that place, hee condemned them all three to the Gallies for ever, and each of them to two hundred stripes round about the Taverne. They appealed unto the *Chaucerie* of *Valledolid*, whither the good host, and three of his servants did carry them. But when the unfor-

V

fortunate

*The pursuit of the History*

fortunate Wretches thought they had beene before the secular Iudges, they found themselves before the Inquisitors : for the subtile and malicious Taverner had put within the Informations certaine speeches that they had said against the Ministers of the holy Inquisition ; an irremissible offence. They put them in darke Dungeons ; from whence (as they thought to have done) they could not write to their Father, nor come to the speech of any that might help them. And there wee will leave them in good hold, to returne to our host, whom wee met on the way : who told us , That the Lords of the Inquisition had given him charge to bring before them the Witnesses, that had given evidence in the cause ; but that notwithstanding (as our friend) hee did advise us to absent our selves. The Gentlewoman gave him a Ring that shee

had



*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

had upon her finger; desiring him so to worke, as wee might not appeare before them: hee did promise it. Now had the Rascall said this, onely to make us be gone; for feare that (if wee had beene heard) his Villanie (which was not the first) should have beene discovered. About a fortnight after, there was a generall Execution [at *Valledolid*]; where, among other prisoners, I saw the three poore Devills come forth with Gags in their mouthes, as Blasphemers, that had beene so presumptuous as to touch with their tongue the Ministers of the holy Inquisition; men even as holy and perfect, as the Iustice they doe administrate. They wore each of them a penitent Garment, called a *Sanbenito*, and a Paper Miter upon their heads; whereon were written their offences, and the punishment to be inflicted upon them for the same. It grieved me to

### *The pursuit of the History*

see the poore Foot-man pay what he did not owe : as for the two other, I had not so much pittie of them, for the little they had of mee. They confirmed the Sentence of the host, adding moreover and above to every one of them three hundred stripes : so that they gave them five hundred a peece, and sent them to the Gallies, where their brags and bravadoes had leasure to take breath & coole themselves. For my part, I did seeke my fortune, and many times in \* *Magdelaine* Field did I meet the two Women, who never yet knew mee, nor thought that I had knowne them. A while after I saw the young Gentlewoman, who had taken up a Lodging, where shee lay backwards, and did let her foreroomes, to get wherewith to maintaine her selfe and her Gallant. As for the old Woman, shee fell againe to her old Trade in that Citie.

Magdelaine Field, is a place to walk in at Valledolid, as Moore-Fields in London.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII.

*How Lazaro was Gentleman Vsher  
to seven severall Women  
at one time.*

I Came to *Valledolid* with six Rials in my Purse ; by reason that every one seeing me so leane and so pale, did give mee their Charities very freely, and I was not slack in receiving. I went directly to the Brokers ; where for foure Ryals and a Quartillo I bought mee a long Frize Cloake, that had beene some Portugals, even as thredbare as tattered and unfown ; wherewith. & a high Steeple-crownd Hat, with broad brims, like a *Franciscan* Fryer, that I bought for halfe a Ryall, and with a staffe in my hand, I walked the streets. All that saw mee, did laugh at me, and every one gave mee their Squib. One called me Ta-

A Quartillo is three halfe pence.

*The pursuit of the History*

verne Philosopher : another, Behold where Saint *Peter* goeth, apparelled as on a holy-day Eve. Some would say, Gentlemen of *Portugall*, will you have any Grease to anoint your Boots ? Others there were, who affirmed, that I seemed to be the Ghost of some hospitall Physician. But I with Merchants eares, heard all, said nothing, and still passed on. I had not gone through many Streets, when I met a Woman with a great Fardingale, and Pattens of the largest size, who leaned her hand upon a Boyes head, and was covered with a Cypres Veyle unto her stomack ; she asked mee, if I could tell her of any Gentleman-Vsher : I answered her, that I knew of none, but my self, of whom (if it pleased her) she might dispose as of her owne. The agreement was made betwixt us without any farther delay, shee promising me for meat, drinke and wages, three quartillos

of *Lazarillo de Tormes*.

quartillos a day. I tooke possession of the Office, and gave her my arme, and threw away my staffe, as having now no more need of it, for I carried it onely to be thought sick, and move people to compassion. Shee sent the Boy home, bidding him tell the Maide shee should lay the Cloth, and make ready dinner. She led me above two houres up & downe from one place to another. The first visite wee came at, the good Gentlewoman warned me, that whē wee came nigh the house that shee was to goe to, I should run before and inquire if the Master or the Mistris were within, and say, My Mistresse *Ieane Perez* (for that was her name) is here, who desireth to kisse their hands. She told me moreover, that when shee did stay any where, I was never to have my hat on before her : I answered her, that I knew very well the duty of a Servant, and that I

That is 4.  
pence half  
penny.

*The pursuit of the History*

would perform it. I had an exceeding desire to see the face of my new Mistresse, but I could not, because she was veiled. Shee told mee that she could not maintaine me alone for her selfe; but that she would finde some of her neighbours whom I might serve, and that betweene them they would give mee the consideration shee had promised mee, and in the meane time (till they were consorted, which would bee very shortly) shee would pay me her part. Shee asked mee, if I knew where to lye a Nights? I told her, No. You shall not want Lodging (said shee) for my husband is a Taylor, and hath Prentices, with whom you shall share Bedding: You could not have found a better place in the whole City; for before three dayes be at an end, you shall have six Mistresses, and every one shall give you a Quarto, which will be three Blankes more than I have promised you.

3. Blankes  
are three  
farthings.

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

you. I could not but wonder at the state and gravity of that Woman, who seemed (at the least) the Wife of some great Gentleman, or wealthy Citizen: and withall, it astonished me to consider, how for three poore Quartillos, and three Blankes a day, I was to waite upon seven Mistresses. But I considered, that something was better than nothing, and that the Office was not painefull, a thing I hated as the Devill himselfe: for I have alwayes chosen rather to eat Cabbage and Garlike without working; than to worke, and feed upon hennes and Capons. When wee came home, shee gave me her Veyle and Pattens; to deliver them to the Maid, and then I saw what I so much desired. I found, that my little Woman was handsome enough; shee was browne, of a good behaviour, and comely feature. What I only disliked in her, was, that her face did shine like an Earthen-Por-  
renger

*The pursuit of the History*

renger, varnished. Shee gave me the Quarto, bidding mee come twice a day, once at eight a clock in the morning, and againe at three in the afternoone, to know if she would goe abroad, or no. I went from thence to a Cookes-shop, and with a Pye of a quarto I made an end of my allowance, passing the rest of the day like a Cameleon; for I had already spent the Almshouses that had beene given mee upon the way, and durst not fall a begging againe, for my Mistresse (if shee had knowne it) would have eaten mee quick. I went to her house at three a clock; shee told mee, that shee would not goe forth, but that shee would have me know, that from thence forwards shee would pay nothing that day (shee went not abroad, and if so bee shee went out but once in a whole day, I should then have but two Maravedies. Furthermore, shee said, that since she allowed mee  
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*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

my bedding, shee did also expect to be served before all others, and that I should entitle my selfe her servant. The Bed (to speake truth) was such, as it deserved well that prerogative and much more, for shee made mee ly with her Prentises upon a great Table, and the devill any thing else there was, but an old rotten thred-bare Blanket to cover us. I passed foure dayes with the plentiful Diet that foure Maravedies could affoord mee, and at the end of them, there entred into the society a Taverners Wife who was above an houre in bargaining for the poore Quarto. To conclude, within five dayes I found seven Mistresses, and seven Quartos a day of allowance, so that I began to live very splendidiously, drinking not of the worst Wine, though not altogether of the best, that so I might cut my Cloake according to my cloath.

A Maravedy is the least money they have in Spaine, & is worth a little above halfe a farding of our money.

*The pursuit of the History*

cloth. The other five were, a Sergeants widow, a Gardners wife, the bare footed Nunnes Chaplaines Neece (for so she stiled her selfe) a Wench for any thing; & a Tripe-wife, whom I did best affect, because that when shee did pay me her Quarto, shee would alwayes bid me to some of her Tripe-broath, of the which before I went out of her house, I would send some three or foure Porrengers full into my guts ; so that I lived so well that I pray God I may never live worse. The last was a devout woman (called a *Beata*) with whom I had more to doe, than with all the rest ; for we never visited any but Monkes and Friers, with whom when she was alone, shee was in her kingdome : her house was like a Bee-hive, some went out, and other came in, but all of them with their great sleeves stored with one thing or other. They gave mee (that I might be secret ) some peeces  
of

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

of meat, which they saved in their sleeves, out of their allowance in the Covent. I never saw in all my life a better hypocrite than this my Mistresse was ; when she went through the street she never lifted her eyes from the ground, and her beads were never out of her hands wherewith she still mumbled her prayers. All such as knew her would desire her to pray to God for them, for without doubt her prayers were very acceptable unto him. Shee would answer them, that shee was a great sinner ( wherein she lyed not, but couzened them with the naked truth. Now had every one of these my Mistresses their set houres, when one had told me that she would not stirre forth, I went to another till I had ended my taske. But especially I was (and that without faile ) to goe find them againe at my appointed time, for if by mischance I missed never so little, then would my Mistresse, before

*The pursuit of the History*

before all the company that she visited, scold and rayle me out of my skin ; and threaten me, that if I continued in this carelesnesse and negligence, shee should seeke out another Gentleman-Vsher that should bee more diligent, observant, and punctuall. So that to heare her brawle & threaten with such arrogancy, a man would have thought shee had given me every day 2. Ryals for my diet onely, and 30. Duckets a yeere standing Wages. When they went abroad, one would have taken them for the wives of some Presidents of *Castilla*, at the least of some Counsellours. It fortun'd one day that the Chaplaines Neece, and the Sergeants Wife met together in a Church, and being both of them to returne home at the same time, there arose a great controversie betweene them, which of the two I was to accompany, making a noyse as if they had bin

in

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

in a Faire. They pulled and tugged mee, one of this side, another of that side, with such rage and fury, that at length they tore my Cloak in peeces, leaving me starke naked; for the devill any other cloathes had I under it but a ragged shirt that looked like a fishermans net. Those that through the casements thereof did cast their eyes upon the nudity of my flesh, did burst out into extreme laughter. Some would mocke poore *Lazaro*; and others gave eare to the two women who pulled their grand fathers out of their graves. The haste I had to gather up againe the peeces of my Cloak, which, for being somewhat too ripe, were fallen to the ground, would not permit me to heare what they said one to another; only I heard the widdow say, Where hath this Baggage (I wonder) gotten all this pride? but yesterday shee was a Tankard-wench,  
and

*The pursuit of the History*

and to day she ruffles it in her filkes,  
at the cost of the soules in Purgatory.  
The other replied. But you Mistresse  
Wag-taile do mince it in your Scam-  
mel, earned of those who with a *Deo*  
*gratias*, and a God reward you, doe  
pay for whatsoever they possesse : and  
if I yesterday carried the water Tan-  
kard, you beare to day the wine bot-  
tle. The company that stood by par-  
ted them, for they had already one  
another fast by the hair. Having ga-  
thered up the dismembred member  
of my poore cloake, I asked a couple  
of pinnes of a mumblor of Pater-  
nosters that was there, wherewith I  
mended it as well as I could to hide  
my nakednesse : and leaving them  
brawling, I went me to my Mistresse  
the Taylors wife, who had warned  
me to come and fetch her at eleven a  
clock, because she was to goe to din-  
ner at a friends house ; when she saw  
mee in this pickle, she began to fall a  
scoulding

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

scoulding at mee ; saying, What doe you think to earne my money by waiting on mee thus like a Rogue ? with farre lesse wages than I give you I could have a Gentlman-Viher with handsome Trouses, a neat Doublet, a good Cloake, and a comely Bonnet; and you doe nothing but Tipple up all I give you. What Tippling (said I to my selfe) with seven poore Quartos that I earne a day, when I earne the most, for many passed that my Mistresses for feare of paying me my Quarto, would not goe abroad. Shee made the peeces of my Cloake to be stitched one to another, and for very haste they put them upside downewards, in which manner I waited on her.

*The purſuit of the History*

CHAP. XIII.

*Lazaro rehearſed what happened  
at a banquet.*

**W**E poſted like a Fryer invited to a feaſt ; for the good Lady feared there ſhould not bee enough for her. Wee came to her friends houſe, where wee found other women that were likewise invited, who asked my Miſtreſſe, Whether I was ſufficient to keepe the doore ? ſhee answered them, Yes. Then they ſaid to mee, Stand here brother, to day you ſhall fare Royally. There came in many Gallants, every one pulling out of his pocket, this man a Partridge, and that man a Henne ; one brought forth a Rabbet, another a paire of Pigeons ; this a peece of Mutton, that a chine of Porke ; ſome drew out Sawfiges or Chitterlings :



*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

terlings : and such a one there was, that pulled out a Pye of a Ryall wrapped up in his handkercher. They delivered all to the Cooke, and whilest dinner was in preparing, they sported with the Gentlewoman. What passed there betweene them, is neither lawfull for me to rehearse, nor for the Reader to contemplate. But the play being ended, meat was served in, and all sat down, the Gentlewomen plying the dishes soundly; and the Gallants taking their Cups roundly. What remained upon the table, the women put it up in their pockets. The Gentlemen returning to their handkerchiefs, drew forth their last course. One brought out apples, another Cheese, another Olives, & one of them (who was the chiefe and sturched the Taylers wife) drew out halfe a pound of Comfits. This manner of carrying meat so neere at hand for any necessity,

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*The pursuit of the History*

cessity, did please me wondrous well, and therefore from thence forwards, I purposed to make three or foure pockets in the first breeches that God should send mee (for at that time I had not any) and one of them should be such leather as black Lacks are made of, very well sowne to put porridge in. For if those Gallants that were so rich, and so noted, did bring all the provision in their pockets : and the Gentlewomen did carry it away crammed within theirs ; I (who was but Vsher to a crew of Cockatrices) might very well doe it. Wee went at length among vs servants to dinner, and the devill any thing else was there for us, but porridge and Sops. I wondered that the good Ladies had not also put that into their wide sleeves. Wee had hardly begun to eat, when we heard a great noyse in the Roome where our Masters were. They disputed who their Parents had bin, & what

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*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

what the Womens husbands were, untill that leaving words, they fell roundly to blowes, and pell-mell one with another, did let hands, feet, teeth, and nayles doe their function, in scratching, biting, kicking, cuffing, and tugging one another by the haire. The occasion of this Uprore was, that some of the Gallants would neither give, nor pay any thing to the Gentlewomen, telling them, that what they had eaten, did suffice. It chanced that upon this stirre, a Commisarie, with other officers of Iustice, did passe through the street; who hearing the noyse, came to the door, & charged them to open in the Kings Name: Which words being heard, every one began to run, one this way, another that way: One left his Cloak, another his Sword: This woman left her Pattens; that, her Veyle: so that all vanished, and hid themselves, every one where best he could. I, (who

*The pursuit of the History*

had done nothing for which I (as I should runne away) did not stirre; but (as I was Porter) opened the Doore, least they should accuse mee to have resisted the Kings Officers. The first Sergeant that entred, taking first hold of mee by the neck, said, That hee arrested mee : and being thus in his hold, they shut fast the Doores, and went to seeke those that had made the noyse. They left no Chamber, Closet, Buttery, cellar, Garret, nor Privie unsearched : but seeing they could finde no body, they rooke my examination. I confessed from one end to the other, who those were that were there, and what they had done. They wondered, that there being so many, as I said ; they could not finde any : And, to speake the truth, I my selfe was much amazed at it, for there were twelve Men, and six Women. Wherefore I told them

(as

(as indeed I did beleve it) that  
I thought, that all those that had  
beene there, & made that noise, were  
Spirits ; whereupon they fell a  
laughing at mee. The Commissarie  
asked those that had beene in the  
Cellar, if they had searched well in  
every corner ? They answered him,  
Yes. But he, not satisfied therewith,  
caused a Torch to be lighted, to goe  
downe himsele. Enteing at the  
Doore, they saw a great Tubbe  
rowle up and downe the Cellar;  
wherewith the Sergeants being  
frighted, beganne to runne away, say-  
ing, By God this man saith true,  
here are nothing but Hobgoblins.  
The Commissary, who was more  
crafty, stayed them, saying, That  
hee did not feare the Devill ; & with  
that, went to the Tub, and opening it,  
found within it a Man and a Woman,  
both of them as naked as their  
Mother brought them into the  
X 4 World,

*The pursuit of the History*

World, by reason, that when the said Commissary did knock at the doore, they were a bed together upon terms of agreement, and had not had the leasure, upon the sudden Alarm, to take their Clothes; but as they were, had hid themselves within that empty Tub. They were all amazed to see them both so faire ; but casting Cloakes upon them, they committed them to the custodie of two Sergeants, and went on to seeke the others. The Commissarie discovered a great Earthen vessell full of oyle, within the which hee found a man cloathed, and up to the brest in the said oyle : who (as soone as they perceived him) thought to have leaped forth ; which he could not doe so artificially, but that both hee and the vessell came to the ground, so that the oyle did rebound up to their Hats, and without any respect, stained them all ; which made them curse both the Officer, and the

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

the Devill that first invented it. The Oylie man, seeing that nobody did stay him, (but to the contrary, that all fled from him as from a mad Dogge) betooke himselfe to his heeles ; and though the Commissary cryed out, Stay him, Stay him, yet neverthelesse every one gave him way, so that hee went out at a back-doore, pissing oyle, of the which he had enough out of his Garments, to maintaine the Lampe of our Lady of Distresses a moneth and more. All the Officers remained drenched in Oyle, cursing him that had brought them thither, and me also : for they said, I was the Band, and for such a one should bee punished. They came out of the Cel- lar, as Fritters out of a Frying-panne, leaving a tract wheresoever they passed. They were so angry, that they vowed to God and the foure Evan- gelists, to hang all those that they found ; which made us prisoners to  
stinke

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flinke for feare. They went to Corne and Meale roomes to seeke out the rest ; and being there, from above through a trap-doore was a Sack of Meale powred upon them; wherewith they were all blinded, and cryed out, Violence to the Kings Officers : and if they thought to open their eyes, they were instantly closed up with water and Meale. Those that had the keeping of us, left us to goe helpe the Commissary. that roared out like a mad-man. But they were scarce entered, when their eyes also were filled with Meale and Water : so that they went up and downe, as if they had beene playing at Blindman-buffe; and meeting one another in this manner, did enterchange such Cuffes and Blowes, that they brake one anothers Chops, and Teeth. When wee saw them in such disorder, wee came in upon them,  
and



*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

and they upon themselves with such might, that being weary, and out of breath, they fell to the ground, where blowes and spurnes fell upon them as thick as hayle, untill they were as still as if they had beene dead: for if any one did but open his mouth to grunt never so little, hee had it straightwayes filled with meale, and crammed like a Capon. Wee bound them hand and foot, and carryed them into the Cellar, and threw them into the Oyle, like Fishes to bee fryed, where they wallowed like Hogges in the myre. Then did wee shut up all the doores, every one returning to his owne house. The owner of the House, where these Reakes were played ( who was gone into the Countrey ) comming home presently after, and finding the doores fast, and that no body did answer (by reason that a Neece of his,

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*The pursuit of the History*

his, to whom hee had incharged his house, which shee had lent for that meeting, was gone home to her Fathers, for feare of her Unckle) hee caused the doores to be broken open. But when he found his house all strewed with Meale, and bedawbed with oyle, he was so vexed, that hee tooke on as if hee had beene drunke: then hee went into his Cellar, where hee found all the Oyle spilt, and the Officers tumbling in it. With rage & madnesse to see his goods spoiled after this manner, hee tooke a great Cudgell, and gave the Commissary and the Sergeants so many blowes, that he left them for halfe dead: then calling his neighbours to his aide, they carried them into the street, where the boyes fell a throwing mud, dart, and Shoo-clouts upon them; for they were so full of Meale, that no body could know them. When they came againe to themselves, and perceived

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*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

ceived they were in the Street, and unbound, they presently rose up, and berooke themselves to their heeles; so that one might very well then have said, Stop the Constable. They left behind them their Cloakes, Swords, and Daggers; not daring to returne againe for them, that nobody might know the Businesse. The master of the house tooke possession of all, in recompence of the losse hee had sustained. When I wēt out of the house, to goe my way, I met with a Cloake that was none of the worst, which I tooke up, and left mine in stead of it. I gave God thankes, that I came off so well in that dayes adventure; which was a new world to mee, who was wont alwayes to goe by the worst. I went to the Taylors Wives House, where I found a great hurly-burly, & the Taylor taking measure of his Wives ribs with a good Cudgell, because she was come home alone, without

*The pursuit of the History*

out Veyle or Pattens, running through the streets with more than an hundred Boyes at her tayle. I came in good time : for as soone as the Taylor saw mee, hee left his Wife, and fell upon my back, giving mee a blow with his fist over the face, wherewith hee struck out those few Teeth that I had left mee, and some tenne or twelve spurnes in the guts, that made mee cast up againe that little which I had eaten. What, (said hee) infamous Baud, are you not ashamed to come to my house ? You shall surely now pay your old and new Score both at once : and calling unto his Servants to bring forth a Blanket, they put mee into it, and tossed mee at their pleasures, and my great grieve, leaving me for dead ; and in that case they laid mee upon a Bench, being already night. When I came againe to my selfe, and thought to have stirred,

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

stirred, I fell to the ground, and with the fall, I brake one of my Armes. The day beeing come, by little and by little I crawled unto a Church Gate: Where, with a pittifull voice, I craved the charitable Almes of such persons as went in and out.

CHAP. XV.

*How Lazaro made himselfe  
an Hermite.*

**L**ying at the Church Doore, and making a collection of my former life; I considered all the misfortunes that I had passed, from the day that I began to serve the Blind man, untill the present instant: And all Reckonings made up, I found, that rising early, did not bring on the day faster, nor continuall toyle make a man alwayes rich; but as the Song saith:

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*The pursuit of the History*

*The early riser doth not thrive  
Sowell as hee whom God doth drive.*

To him I recommended my selfe, that the end might proove better than either the beginning or the middle had beene. It was my chance to be close to a venerable and white-bearded Hermite, having a Staffe and Beades in his hand, at the end whereof did hang a Deaths-head, of the bignesse of a Conies. This good Father seeing mee distressed, with kind and milde speeches began to comfort me, asking mee from whence I was, and what chances had brought me to this estate? I, in few and compendious termes, gave him to understand the long and large extent of my bitter & painfull Pilgrimage. Hee was amazed to heare mee, and mooved with piety and pittie towards mee, hee invited mee home to his Hermitage. I accepted of his offer, and as well as I could

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

could (which was with no little paine)  
we came to the Oratory, w<sup>ch</sup> was two  
miles from thence in a Rocke ; close  
to the which there was a Chāber with  
a hollownesse in one of the walls,  
where his bed stood. Within the  
Yard was a Cistern with fresh water,  
wherewith he watred a garden, more  
curious and neat, than vaste and spa-  
cious. Here (said the good old man)  
have I lived these twenty yeeres, free  
from the jarring and unquietnesse of  
the World : this is (my Brother) the  
earthly Paradise. Here do I contem-  
plate both divine & humane matters;  
here doe I fast when I am filled, and  
eat when I am hungry : here doe I  
watch, when I cannot sleepe ; and  
sleepe, when I am weary of watching.  
Here am I solitary: when I want cō-  
pany ; and am accompanied, when I  
am not alone. Here doe I sing, when  
I am merry ; and weepe, when I am  
sad;

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*The pursuit of the History*

lad, Here doe I work, when I am not idle ; and am idle, when I doe not work. Here doe I think upon my bad life that is passed ; and consider the good one that is present. Heere, lastly, it is where all things are unknown; and where the knowledge of all things is attained. It did mee good at the heart to heare the merrily disposed Hermite : And therefore I desired him to give me some notion of the Hermiticall life, for it seemed to mee the Quintessence of all others. It is by so much the best (answered hee) that hee onely can tell who hath made tryall of it : but wee cannot now have leysure to discourse any farther upon it, by reason that it is dinner time. I intreated him to give mee some remedie for my arme, which was very sore. Hee did it with such ease and facility, as from thence forwards it pained me



*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

mee no more. Wee did eat like Kings, and dranke like *Germans*. Dinner being ended, in the midst of our Noone-sleepe, the good Hermit beganne to cry out, I dye, I dye. I presently arose, and found him ready to give up the Ghost. Seeing him in this case, I asked him if hee was dying; hee answered mee, I, I, I: and onely repeating I, dyed within an houre after. I found my self in a peck of troubles; considering, that if the man did dye without witnesses, one might say, that I had killed him, and so it would cost mee my life, which till then with so much adoe I had preserved; and that few witnesses would serve to convince me of the Fact, by reason that my Garbe and Fashion would make me be taken rather for a Robber upon the highwayes, than for a man of worship. I came instantly out

*The pursuit of the History*

of the cell, to see if I could find thereabouts any body, to be a witnesse of that death and looking on every side, I perceived a flock of sheepe not far from thence, towards the which I went in all haste (though not without pain, feeling the Taylor still upon my bones) where I found six or seven shepheards, & foure or five shepheardeffes, under the shade of certaine willowes, neere adjoyning to a delightfull & cleare Spring. The Shepheards did pipe, the Shepheardeffes did sing, some capered, & others danced: one held a Wench by the hand, another slept in another wenchs lap. Briefely, they all passed away the heat of the day in Love-games, and pleasant discourses. I came unto the panting & out of breath, desiring them, that without any stay they would come with me, for the Hermite lay a dying. Some of them followed mee, leaving

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leaving the rest to keepe their flocks. Being eñtered into the Hermitage, they asked the good Hermite, whether he did mean to die? who answered them, I, (but he lyed, for he had no mind to it, but was forced to it against his wil.) When I saw that he persisted still in one & the same note, answering I, to all questions ; I asked him, if hee intended that those Shepheards should be his executors ? he said, I. I asked him, if he did not make me his sole & lawfull heire ? he answered, I. I went on asking him, if he did not acknowledge & confesse, that whatsoever he did or might possesse, was due unto mee, both for my good & acceptable services, as for divers thing which he had received of me ? he againe said, I, which I, I wished might have bin the last accent of his life. But as I perceived, that there was yet some breath in his body (fearing lest he should be-

*The pursuit of the History*

flow it to my losse & dammage) I wēt  
on still with my demāds, causing one  
of the Shepheards to note downe all  
that he said: which the Shepheard did  
with a Coale against the wall, because  
he had neither Pen nor Inckhorne. I  
asked him, If he was not content, that  
Shepheard should signe and subscribe  
for him unto his will, since he himself  
was unable to do it? he answered I. I, I,  
and thereupon dyed. VVe took order  
for his buriall, making a grave for him  
in his Garden, with the greatest  
speed that might bee, for the feare  
that I had lest hee should rise againe.  
I desired the Shepheards to take part  
of a Collation ; but they thanked  
me, by reason that it was already  
time to drive forth their Cattell for  
to feed : and so they departed. saying,  
they were very heavy for my losse.  
I locked fast the doore of the Cell, &  
ra. sacked instantly every corner.

I

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

I found a great Earthen Vessell full of good wine, and another of Oyle; two Pots of honey, two sides of Bacon, much powdred Meat, and some dried Fruits; all which did please mee very well, but yet it was not that w<sup>ch</sup> I did seek. I found his Chests full of linnen; and in a corner of one of them, a Womans garment. Although that made mee wonder, yet I wondred more that a man so providēt & thrifty as hee was, should be without Money. I was in mind to goe to his Grave, and aske him where he had put it; and me thought, that having asked him, hee made mee this answer: Thou foole, dost thou thinke, that living in this unneighbourd and solitarie place, at the mercy of every Rogue and Theefe, I was to keepe within a Trunke (in danger of losing it) that which I loved and esteemed more than my life? This inspiratiō (as

*The pursuit of the History*

if really I had received it from his mouth) made mee seek in every corner:but finding nothing,I considered with my selfe, that if I were to hide Money in such a place as no body might find it, where would I put it? I said, within yonder Altar, to the which I went instantly, and lifting up the Cloth that hung before it, at one side of it, being all of Brick, I perceived a Chinke wide enough only to put through a Ryall of eight. My bloud began to rise, and my hart to pant. I tooke a Pick-axe, and in lesse than two blowes, I threw halfe the altar to the ground, and discovered the Reliques that were there intombed. I found a pot of Money, w<sup>ch</sup> I told out, and found the sum to be six hundred ryals. The joy and content that I received was so great, that I had like to have died. I took it frō thence, & digged an hole without the Hermitage, where

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

where I buried it, that (if I were driven from thence) I might finde without, that which I so highly and dearly cherished. That done, I clothed my selfe in the Hermit's weeds, & went to the City, to give notice to the Prior of the Society, of what was passed; not forgetting before I went, to mend up againe the Altar as it was before. It was my fortune to meet all the Brethren together, of whom the Hermitage did depend, which was consecrated to Saint *Lazaro*; whence I gathered a good prognostick for my selfe: who when they saw me already gray-headed, & of an exemplary aspect (w<sup>ch</sup> is most requisite for such Professions) although they found one difficulty, w<sup>ch</sup> was, that I had no beard (because it was not yet growne againe, having shaved it not long before) yet notwithstanding, seeing (by the report of the Shepheards) that the deceased had  
made

*The pursuit of the History*

made me his heire, they gave me the hold and possession of the Hermitage. But now I speake of beards, I remember what a certain Frier did once tell me, w<sup>ch</sup> was, that in their order, & in others of the most reformed sort, they never make any Superiour, unlesse he be well furnished with beard : by meanes whereof it commeth to passe, that many who are sufficiēt & capable to exercise that charge, are excluded, others preferred to the same, though unworthy, so that their chin bee well stored with downe : as if to rule and governe well, did rather depend of haire, than of a good & ripe understanding. The Brothers admonished me to live according to the example and good reputation of my predecessour, which was such, as every one held him for a Saint. I told them, that I would shew my selfe a *Hercules*. They warned me likewise, that I should

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of *Lazarillo de Tormes*.

should not beg but upon Tuesdayes  
and Saturdayes, because if I did other-  
wise, the Fryers would punish mee.  
I promised them to fulfill in all points  
what they should ordaine me (& the  
rather, because I had no great minde  
to come into their clutches, having  
already tried of what mettle their  
hands were made.) I began then to  
begge from doore to doore, with a  
low humble and devout tone (as I had  
learned in the Blind mans schoole)  
& that not for any need, but because it  
is a use & custome amōg beggers, who  
the more they have, the more they  
desire, & with more gust. The folkes  
that did heare me say, Pray bestow  
something towards the lamp of the  
good Saint *Lazaro*, and did not know  
the voice, came out to the Doore,  
and seeing me, did wonder much, &  
asked mee where the Father *Anselmo*  
was? (for so was the good old man cal-  
led)

*The pursuit of the History*

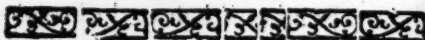
led) I told them that he was departed  
this World. The one said, Now God  
be with him, and give him good rest,  
that was so good a man. The  
others, May his blessed Soule enjoy  
celestiall happineffe. Some said,  
Blessed bee hee that led such a life;  
for in fixe yeeres hee hath not eaten  
any hot meat whatsoever. Others said  
Hee fasted with Bread and Water.  
Some foolish & superstitious women  
would kneele downe and call upon  
the Father *Anselmo*. One asked mee  
what I had done with his habit. I  
told her that it was the same that I  
did weare. She (without saying  
what she would have) pulled out her  
Sizars, & began to cut off a peece of  
that she could first lay hold on, which  
was just before my fore-parts; where-  
upon I began to cry out, fearing shee  
would have gelded mee. But she see-  
ing me so dismayd, said, Feare not bro-  
ther,

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

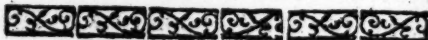
ther, for I will not be without  
a relique of that blessed man,  
but I will pay for the dammage  
done to your garment. Ah (said  
some) without doubt before fixe  
months be at an end, hee will be  
canonized, for hee hath done many  
miracles. There came so many to  
see his sepulchre, that the house  
was alwayes full ; wherefore I  
thought it fit to bring him forth  
under a Penthouse before the hermi-  
tage : and from thence forward, I  
begd no more for Saint *Lazarus*  
Lamp, but for that of the Blessed  
*Anselmo*. I could never yet under-  
stand that manner of begging,  
Give to the Lampe, or for to  
light the Saints. But I will not  
harpe too much upon that string,  
for it will jar in the eares of those,  
who with the Saints oyle, do main-  
tain the lamps of their stomacks. I ca-  
red

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red not much to goe to the City, having within the Cell what I desired; yet lest they should say I was rich, and therefore I did not beg, I went thither the day following, where befell me that which you may read in the next Chapter.



CHAP.



CHAP. XVI.

*How Lazaro would haue  
married againe.*



Ood lucke is better than  
a parrimony ; to an  
unfortunate man, a  
Hog is no better than  
a Dogge. Wee see  
oftentimes many men spring from  
the slime of the earth, and with-  
out knowing how they finde  
themselves rich, honoured, feared,  
and esteemed. If you aske, Is  
that man learned ? one will an-  
swer you, As an Ass. Is he wise ;  
As a Wood-cock. Hath hee any  
good qualities ? As many as a Car-  
man.

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man. From whence then commeth to him all his wealth? Oae will tell you, From Fortune. And contrariwise, many that are discrete, wise, prudent, full of a thousand perfections, and fit to rule a kingdom, doe see themselves needy, scorned, dejected, and made the Dish-Clouts of the world. If you demand the reason hereof: One will answer you, A crosse Fortune doth pursue them. The same (as I think) pursued and persecuted mee, giving in mee an instance unto the world of what shee is able to doe; for since the foundation of it, no man hath beene so tossed by that unfortunate Fortune. But to follow my discourse. I went through a street begging (as I was wont) for the good Saint *Lazaro*; (for I durst not begge within the City for the blessed *Anselmo*, that was  
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*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

onely for Idiots and superstitious women that came to rubbe their Beades upon his sepulcher, where according to their sayings, many miracles were done.) And coming to a doore, and doing there as at others, I heard some body call mee from the staires head, saying, Come up, farther, come up; What meane you to be so strange? I went up, and upon the midst of the staires, (which were somewhat darke) certaine women met mee. The one hung about my neck, the others tooke mee by the hands, di-ving with theirs into my pockets. All of them asked mee, why they had not seene mee these eight dayes? But when wee were come up to the stayers head, and that by the light of the windowes they saw mee, they were all amazed, and looked one upon another, as if they had

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*The pursuit of the History*

beene Matachines ; and in the end  
brake out into such laughter, that  
one would have thought they did  
it for a Wager, none of them be-  
ing able to utter one word. The  
first that spake, was a little Boy,  
that said, This is not my Daddy.  
But when this flux of Laughter  
was somewhat over, the Women  
(who were foure) asked mee for  
whom I begged ? I told them, for  
Saint *Lazaro*. For Saint *Lazaro* ?  
said they. Why, is not the Fa-  
ther *Anselmo* well ? Well ? (answe-  
red I) yes sure, hee complaineth  
of nothing ; for he dyed eight  
dayes agoe. When they heard  
this, they fell all a roaring ; and  
if their Laughing had beene be-  
fore great, their Wayling was  
now greater. Some cryed ; o-  
thers pulled themselves by the  
hayres ; all of them together  
made



*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

made such a jarring Musique, that a Quire of hoarse Nundes could scarce make a worse One said, What shall become of mee, Wretch that I am, without an Husband, without Defence, and without Counsell? Whither shall I goe? Who shall maintaine me? O heavy newes! What mischance is this? Another brake out thus: My deare Sonne in Law, and Master! How have you forsaken us, without bidding us farewell? O my poore little Children, now Orphants, and comfortlesse, where is your good Father? The little Brats held the *superius* of that untuned Musique. Every one wept, every one rooke on; there was nothing but sobs, nothing but Waylings. But, when the Waters of that great Deluge grew somewhat towards

*The pursuit of the History*

an Ebbe, they asked and enquired of mee, how, and of what Disease hee dyed. I told it them; as also the Will which hee made, leaving and ordaining mee for his lawfull heyre and successor. There was the blow. It was there that teares were turned into fury, sobs unto blasphemies, and waylings into threatnings. You are some Theefe that have murdered him, to rob him; but you shall not bragge of it (said the yongest) for that Hermite was my husband, and these three children are his: and unlesse you doe give us all his goods, and restore unto me a garment that I lent him to disguise himselfe upon Shrove-Tuesday, wee will make you to be hanged: and if Iustice be denyed, there are Swords and Pistols in the world, wherewith to make you lose a thousand lives,

lives, if so many you had. I told them that I had sufficient witnesses, before whom hee had made his Will. These are all trickes and gulleries (said they) for the same day that you say hee dyed, hee was here, and told us, that hee had no company. After I had considered with my selfe, that the Will had not beene made under the hands of Notaries, and that those women did threaten mee, for the experience that I had of Law, and Suits, I determined to speake them faire, to try if by that meanes I might compasse that which by Law I was assured to lose: as also, for that the teares of the young Widdow had penetrated to the interior parts of my heart. And so I desired them to be quiet, telling them, that they should lose nothing by mee; and that if I had accepted to be his heire, it was onely because I

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thought

*The pursuit of the History*

thought that the deceased was no married man, having never heard before that Hermits were married. They (all sadnesse and melancholy being cast off) began to laugh, saying, That they saw well that I was a Novice, and little experimented in that Office, since I knew not, that when an hermite is termed solitary, it is meant that hee is to bee sequestred from the company and society of men, and not of Women; for there is not any, but hath one at the least, with whom hee may passe in exercises of action, the vacant time, from those of speculation; imitating in that your holy Predecessors : and so much the more, by reason that they are persons that are better informed of the Will of God, who hath ordained, that man should not be alone, and therefore they, like dutifull and obedient children

dren have each of them one or two wives, whom they maintaine, though it bee even of almes; and particularly, the unhappy Wretch that is dead, who nourished and kept foure, that poore Widdow, and I that am her Mother, and those two her sisters, besides those three Infants that are his children, or at least that hee held for such. Then she, whom they said to be his wife, said, that shee would not bee called the Widdow of that old rotten carkasse, that had not remembered her at his death; and that shee would be sworne, that those children were none of his, and that from that time shee did annull and breake all contracts of Matrimony made betweene them. I then asked her, what the contents of that contract were? The Mother replied, saying: The matrimoniall covenants that I made, when I married my  
Z 4 daughter

*The pursuit of the History*

daughter with that ungratefull man were these that follow ; which, that you may the better understand, I must of necessity beginne farther off. I lived heretofore in a Towne called *Duenas*, some 12. mes hence, having only remaining these three daughters, of three sundry fathers, who ( to the neereſt conjecture ) were a Monke, an Abor, and a Priest, for I have been alwayes much devoted unto the Church. But at length I came to dwell in this City, to eschew the rumours which are frequent in such little places ; for every one termed mee the Ecclesiasticall Widdow, by reason that ( to my griefe ) all three of them were dead. And though others presently did supply their places, they were men of little gaine, and of lesse authority ; who not contenting themselves with the Mother, laid snares

to

*of Lazarillo de Tormes.*

to entrap the young ones : which to prevent, seeing the danger eminent and that the gaine was not sufficient to maintaine us, here I pitched, and began to set up. At the report of the three wenches, suitors came as thicke as Gnats to the Wine-tap; but to none of them all did I ever incline so much as to Churchmen, being persons that are secret, rich, thrifty, and patient. Now among others, the Hermite of S. *Lazaro* came a begging, and seeing this Maid, fell in love with her, and in holinesse and simplicity did desire her of mee for his Wife. I elapped up the Match upon these Articles and Conditions that I will tell you. First, hee obliged himselfe to feed our whole household ; and what wee our selves could earne, should bee to apparell us, and to put up. Secondly, that if at any time my daughter did  
admit

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admit any Coadjutor, (hee being somewhat old and crasie) hee should not make any words of it. Thirdly, that hee should hold and esteeme as his owne, all the Children that shee should beare, to whom from that instant hee assured all whatsoever hee did or might possesse; and that comming to passe that my daughter should bee without issue, hee did make her his sole and lawfull heire. Fourthly, that hee was not to come into our house, when hee should see a larre, Pot, or other Vessell at the Window; a token, that then there was no roome for him. Fifthly, that if, hee being in the house, any other did come, hee was then to hide himselfe where wee should bid him, untill the other were departed. Sixtly and lastly, that hee should be a mediator, to bring hither twice every week some friend or acquaintance of



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of his, to make merry with us at their owne charges. These are (said she) the conditions, upon the which that Wretch betrothed himselfe to my Daughter, and shee to him. The marriage was made and ended, without either Priest or Curate; for hee told mee that it was needlesse, since the essence thereof did consist only in conformity of mindes and mutuall intentions. I was amazed at the speeches of that other *Celestina*, and at the articles of her daughters marriage: I was perplext, not knowing what to say, untill they opened a passage to my desires: for the yong widdow fell about my neck, saying, If that unhappy man had had this Angels face, how much should I have loved him? and with that, she kissed mee. After this kisse, there entered into me I know not what, that began to set me a fire; so that without

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out any delay, or farther discourse, I told her, That if she were minded to forsake her Widdow-hood, and receive mee as her owne, I would not onely keepe and fulfill my Predecessors Covenants, but all others whatsoever that they would adde. They were well pleased with that, and said, That they onely desired, that I should put into their hands all that which was in the hermitage, and that they would keepe it. I promised them so to doe, but with intent to conceale the Money for a need. The concluding of the Match was referred unto the next day; and that afternoone they sent a Cart to the Cell, wherein they carried away all, even to the ashes, not forbearing so much as the Altar-cloth, or the Saints Garments. I was so love-nettled, that if they had asked me the *phœnix*, or  
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Water out of the *Stygian* Lake, I would have given it them. They left mee nothing but a poore Straw-bed, whereon I might cast my selfe like a Dogge. When the good Lady, my future Wife (who came with the Cart) saw that there was no Money, shee was angry (for the old man had told her that hee had some, but not where) and asked me if I did not know where the Treasure lay ? I told her, No. She, crafty and subtill as shee was, tooke mee by the hand, that wee might goe seek it together, and carried me into every hole and corner of the hermitage. As wee went about the Altar, shee perceived the side of the Wall which was newly made up, whereupon shee entred into suspicion of mee. And therefore imbracing and kissing mee, she said unto mee, I pray thee, my Love, tell mee where the money

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money is, that wee may make a merry Wedding with it. I still denyed that I knew of any. Then shee taking mee againe by the hand, made mee walke out round about the hermitage, still looking me in the Face, and when wee came to the place where I had hid the Money, my eyes were instantly towards it. Shee, who all this while watched but for that action, called straightwayes to her Mother, bidding her seek under a Stone that I had laid there; which shee doing, met with the Mony, and I with my death. But shee dissembled, saying, Looke here, wee will live a merry life with this. Then shewing me all manner of kindnesse, they presently (because it grew late) retired to the Citie, and left mee untill the next morning, that I was to goe to their house, where we should make the merriest Wedding that ever

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ever was seene. God grant it (said I to my selfe.) All that night I ballanced betweene hope and feare, lest those Women should deceive mee, although it seemed unpossible unto mee, that a false heart should lurke under so good a face; for, as the *Biskey* said, If thy face be good, thy actions will be answerable. That night was a yeere to mee. It was yet scarce day, when as locking up my hermitage, I went to be married, as if that had been but a slight matter; not remembering that *Elvira* was my wife. I came to the house at their rising; where they received mee with such joy, that I accounted my selfe a happy man, and all feare laid aside, I began to ordaine and command as in mine owne house. Wee made such good cheere, and with such content, that I thought I was in a Paradise: Wee wanted not company, for they had

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had invited five or sixe Women of their friends. After dinner, we fell to dancing ; and though I was altogether ignorant therein, they forced mee to doe the like. It was the best sport in the world to see mee hobble up and downe in my hermits attire. But night being come, after a good supper, and better drinking, they carried mee into a faire chamber, where there was a good bed, and bade mee make my selfe unready, and go to bed first, whilst my bride was undressing. I did so, though contrary to the fashion of my country, where the woman hath that prerogative. A maid was left to helpe mee off with my Stockings, who told mee, that I must put off my shirt, for it was requisite that for some ceremonies that were yet to be performed, I should be starke naked. I obeyed her : but I was no sooner in the Bed, but all the Women,

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men, and my Bride among them, rushed into the Chamber; and the first thing they did, two of them tooke mee by the feet, and two by the armes, and tied instantly 4. cords about them, wherewith they bound mee to the foure Bed-posts, leaving mee stretched like a S. *Andrew* upon a Crosse; whereupon they all fell a laughing like mad folks, and I a roaring like a Bull. But they told mee, unlesse I held my peace, that I was a dead man. Then they tooke a great Basin of hot water, wherein they popped my head. I burned my selfe, and which was worse, if I thought to cry out, they so belaced mee with stripes, that I was constrained to let them do their pleasure. They scalded off my beard, haire, eye-browes, and eye-lids, saying, A little more patience, and the ceremonies will be ended, and you shall enjoy your desire.

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I intreated them to let mee goe, for my itch of marrying was now cooled. But one of the boldest of them, drawing out a knife, said to the others, Hold him fast, and I will geld him a little, that his mortified flesh may not another time bee tempted to copulation. The holy hermite beleaved (I thinke) that all wee told him had beene Gospell, but yfaith it was not, nor Epistle neither. Hee would trust to women; hee shall see now what will come on't. When I saw my precious stones in such danger, I struggled in such manner, as I brake one of the cords, and withall one of the Bed-posts; being animated by a desire that I had, to keepe my Bells for a Morris-dance. They seeing what I had done, for feare lest I should breake all the Bed, unbound me, and putting me in a sheet, they tossed mee so long, that they left



left mee for dead. These are, said they, Sir, the ceremonies wherewith our Wedding begins ; if it please you to come againe to morrow, wee will make an end of the rest: and with that, foure of them tooke mee up, and carried mee a good way from their house, and laid mee in the midst of the street ; where the day found mee, and the Boyes began to run after mee, and do mee a great deale of mischief : so that, to avoid them, I ranne into a Church, close to the high Altar, where they were at Masse. When the Priests saw such a sight, which questionlesse resembled the devill that Painters use to lay under *S. Michaels* feet ; they all ran away, and I among them, to free my selfe from the misdemeanors of those Devils incarnate. The people that were in the Church, cried out, some, Take heed of the Devill ; others

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thers, Beware of the Mad-man. I cryed out as well as they, that I was neither Devill nor Mad-man, but onely a poore fellow, whom God for my sinnes had visited with that miserie. When they perceived, that I was not what they tooke mee to be, they all were quieted ; the Priests returned back againe, to make an end of their Masse ; and the Sexton gave mee the Cloth of a Tombe, to wrap my selfe in. I went into a corner, where I considered the crosses of Fortune, and how on every side man is beset with miserie, and therefore I determined to abide in that Church and there end my dayes (which, in regard of my former woes, could not be very long) and save the Priests a labour of fetching me elsewhere, after my death. This is in summe (courteous Reader) the second Part of the life of *Lazarillo* ; without either adding

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ding or diminishing, but even as I  
have heard my great Grandmother  
tell it. If thou doest like it, expect  
the third Part, which shall  
no lesse delight  
thee.

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*FINIS.*

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